



Dulce Elementary Family Newsletter

March 25, 2010

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Dear Families:

Important Upcoming Dates:

SBA testing continues for grades 3-5 Tuesday through Thursday, March 30th – April 1st.

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: We look forward to seeing you.

March 29 – School Walk for Diabetes

April 1 – Early Release

April 2 – Beginning of Spring Break (no school)

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

April 19-23 – Book Fair Week!

Breakfast next week:

Monday: Hot cereal, cheese stick, orange juice

Tuesday: French toast, sausage, applesauce

Wednesday: Breakfast burrito, salsa, orange juice

Thursday: Assorted dry cereal, grilled ham, orange smiles

Friday: No School – Spring Break

Lunch next week:

Monday: Nacho supreme, lettuce & tomatoes, salsa, carrot stick, mixed fruit

Tuesday: Salisbury steak, mashed potato, gravy, green beans, apple wedges

Wednesday: Ham & cheese on bread, lettuce & tomato & pickles, tater tots, orange smiles

Thursday: Bean & cheese burrito, corn, peaches

Friday: No School – Spring Break

Reminder: Our students do love treats. When sending treats, please give consideration in sending healthy treats. Cupcakes, cookies, and candy are great, but so are fruits, veggies, and grains. Please keep this in mind when sending treats for special occasions.

Parent Self-Assessment: The success of 'our' students depends upon a good working relationship between the home and the school. The parents and teachers share a responsibility to help our students succeed. On the back of the newsletter are some questions you may wish to ask yourself to help you in helping your child be all he/she can be. As educators, we ask many of these same questions of ourselves.

Girls 3-4th grade basketball: Coach Sabrina Baca

We have come to the end of our season. This is our last week of practice. Our last game will be held at the Dulce Athletic Complex this Saturday, March 27th. Our Lady Warriors will play four games that day. The 1st game will be at 9:00 a.m., followed by a game at 10:40, 12:20, and 2:00 p.m. The coaches are very proud of the team. They have made great improvements from our first game. We along with the girls are sad to see our season end. We would like to thank the parents for all their support in bringing them to practice and games on time; for making sure they are on time to school, for keeping up with their grades, and helping with fund raising. Thank you! Thank you to the school staff as well for helping us get and keep the girls eligible. We invite everyone to come and support the girls and boys 3rd and 4th grade basketball teams this weekend. Hope to see you all there!

Physical Education: Ms Dess

This week we began our **“President’s Challenge”** Post Test. We tested on the shuttle run (agility/speed test) and the sit and reach flexibility test. After spring break, we will test on how many consecutive push-ups students can perform with proper technique and we will test to see how many sit-ups students can do in one minute. The 3-5th graders will be doing the mile run the end of April or the first week of May. Please encourage your child to practice push-ups, sit-ups, stretching, and running. I would love to see all students beat their President’s Challenge pre-test scores. Monday, **March 29th**, I will be sending home information about our **“School Walk for Diabetes.”** This year our walk will be held on Friday, April 30th. Last year we raised \$3010.57. Our goal this year is to raise \$3500.00. All classes will take part in the walk during the school day. Collecting donations is optional. If your child chooses to raise funds for the Diabetes Association, please make sure he/she is accompanied by an adult when collecting donations. Turn all cash donations into a check or money order made out to the American Diabetes Association. Remember, this event is for a good cause. Not only does it help raise money for research and education for diabetes, but we get a gift certificate to help purchase new physical education equipment as well.

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

For **Reading**, kinder will use sight words and decodable words to make written sentences, continue identifying initial consonant sounds in words, review sound/spellings Ee, Ff, Kk, Qq, Ww, Xx, and Zz, read a decodable book, “Fix It,” blend sounds in words, identify syllables, review rhymes and the alphabet. For **Comprehension**, students will listen to a big book poetry selection, “Cleaning Up the Block” and discuss ways to keep our community and classroom clean using **Teamwork**. For **Language Arts**, students will expand vocabulary using sensory words, continue to recognize and use the pronouns, ‘we’ and ‘they.’ For **Math**, kinder will explore the characteristics of the penny and nickel, learn about the value of a penny and nickel, skip count by 5s, explore and make comparisons of 3-dimensional shapes. **Kinder would like to say Happy Spring Break to all our students and their families!**

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

For the first time this school year, we will be **reading** a play instead of a regular story. Students will have the opportunity to read different parts if they choose to do so. Our unit on games will continue until spring break. Just as Toad had to be patient for his garden to grow, we are learning this very important lesson as we await our plants to sprout forth. Spring is here and we can hardly wait for the snow to melt and for the grass to grow again. In **math** we will begin our study of fractions. To aid us in our studies we will be looking at one of the most common math tools...food! The use of pizza, cookies, and fruits and veggies will aid us in understanding parts of a whole.

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

We will be reading a story called "A Picture Book of Martin Luther King, Jr." This story will give an overview of the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the many things he was able to accomplish.

Students will continue working on Unit 7 in Every Day Math. 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. We will be celebrating Easter as a grade level on March 31st. We will have an Easter egg hunt, egg decorating, and of course snacks for students, parents, and staff. We hope you'll be able to join us.

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

The New Mexico Standards Based Assessment (**NMSBA**) will be given the mornings of Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Please make sure your child is at school on time. We start early. If the student comes in late, he/she has to take a make-up test. No homework will be given until after the spring break due to the SBA testing. In the afternoons preceding spring break, we will do some movement activities, dances, and songs; lessons and activities in our **diabetes curriculum**; and begin a new **science** unit. Snacks: Again, thanks to all of you who are sending snacks.

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

We will also be testing in the mornings for the **SBA** next week. Please make sure your child gets a good night's rest and a healthy breakfast to start the day. In the afternoons, each teacher will be doing fun activities with the students. The classes will also begin the tribal schools' **diabetes education** program, "Health is Life in Balance." In lesson one, students will learn why we eat. They will engage in an activity that starts them thinking about why we need food.

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

Fabulous Fifth Grade Facts: For those of you who watch college basketball, sorry Lobo fans, you know this week is the beginning of the Sweet Sixteen Tournament, followed by the Elite Eight, and Final Four. These athletes work all season for the chance to play these tournaments and hope to be the number school in the country. Your children are facing their big game of the season this week as well, the **SBA**'s. Last Tuesday was the first day of the Ten Test Tournament. The students remain ready for the challenge and will continue to test Tuesday through Thursday of next week. We will have some 'down time' after testing. During this time, students will participate in special art time, reading, and just some activities to rest our brains. We will be back on schedule after Spring Break.

Parent Self-Assessment

Parent/School Communication

- ✓ *I/we attend parent/teacher conferences.*
- ✓ *I participate in my child's school activities.*
- ✓ *I support my child's principals and teachers.*
- ✓ *I read the school newsletter and/or view the school's website.*
- ✓ *I provide my child with necessary school supplies.*
- ✓ *I assure my child attends school and is on time.*

Parental Supervision

- ✓ *I set limits on the amount of time my child spends watching t.v. or playing video games.*
- ✓ *I monitor and approve of the t.v., videos, music, and computer activities my child views.*
- ✓ *I know the whereabouts of my child at all times.*
- ✓ *I have met and approve of my child's friends.*

Health & Well-Being

- ✓ *My child receives 9-10 hours of sleep nightly.*
- ✓ *My child eats 3 well-balanced, nutritious meals daily.*
- ✓ *My child takes a daily bath/shower.*
- ✓ *My child is clothes appropriately for the occasion.*
- ✓ *My child is provided medical care in a timely fashion.*
- ✓ *My child receives positive attention and is shown affection daily.*

Behavior

- ✓ *My child is taught basic manners and is polite.*
- ✓ *My child is disciplined and well behaved.*
- ✓ *My child understands that schools have rules and regulations that must be followed.*
- ✓ *My child is taught right from wrong.*

Parent Character

- ✓ *I do not expose my child to an alcohol/drug environment.*
- ✓ *I do not expose my child to secondhand smoke.*
- ✓ *I protect my child from exposure to any form of domestic/ societal violence.*
- ✓ *I discipline my child in a nonphysical, non-abusive manner.*
- ✓ *I shield my child from profanity.*

Parent Involvement

- ✓ *I read to my child nightly.*
- ✓ *I assist my child with homework.*
- ✓ *I check my child's homework nightly.*
- ✓ *I have quality talking time daily with my child.*
- ✓ *I provide supervision for my child at all times.*

“Parent Report Card” created by: Jim Grant, Char Forsten, Betty Hollas, and Irv Richardson