



## **Dulce Elementary Family Newsletter**

### **April 22, 2010**

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*Dear Families:*

#### **Important Upcoming Dates:**

April 19-23 – **Book Fair Week! Special evening hours, Wednesday April 21, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

April 23<sup>rd</sup> – **Step Up Day**

April 26<sup>th</sup> – **NWEA-MAP assessments** begin

April 29 – **Third Grade field trip** to Treasure Falls

April 30<sup>th</sup> – **Walk for Diabetes** school event beginning at 10:00 a.m.

May 4<sup>th</sup> – **Teacher Appreciation Day**

May 5<sup>th</sup> – **First grade field trip** to the Ghost Ranch

May 6<sup>th</sup> – **Last day for “Dreams”**

May 6<sup>th</sup> – **Health Fair** “Back to Basics”

May 6<sup>th</sup> – **Kindergarten field trip** ‘picnic’ to Mundo Lake

May 14<sup>th</sup> – **Ranger Phil** visits

May 14<sup>th</sup> – **Fourth Grade field trip** to the NM Natural History Museum

May 21<sup>st</sup> – **Field Day**

May 26<sup>th</sup> – **Honors Assembly**

May 28<sup>th</sup> – **Last Day of School**

**June 21 – July 23 – Summer Program (Dreams, K3+, Save the Children)** Pick up your applications at the elementary office.

#### **Breakfast next week:** *Jose’ Baca*

*Monday: hot cereal, grilled ham, banana*

*Tuesday: piggle stick, peaches*

*Wednesday: breakfast burrito, salsa, orange juice*

*Thursday: egg & cheese on biscuit, chilled fruit*

*Friday: French toast sticks, fruit yogurt, orange smiles*

#### **Lunch next week:** *Jose’ Baca*

*Monday: chicken fajitas, refried beans, salsa, pears*

*Tuesday: mac & cheese w/ham, roll, green beans, fruit cup*

*Wednesday: meat lasagna, roll, corn, pears*

*Thursday: breaded chicken, mashed potatoes w/gravy, mixed veggies, apple wedges*

*Friday: grilled ham & cheese sandwich, tater tots, fruit shape up*

**Student Pick up:** *If you know ahead of time that you are going to pick up your child, please notify the office prior to 1:30 p.m. Your child will be dismissed at 3:10 to come to the back parking lot, which is the official pick up and drop off location. You do not need to come into the building to pick up your child. Teachers are on duty each morning and afternoon to make sure our car riders get to and from*

the cars safety. The office is very busy making sure all of our students get home safety from 3:00 – 3:15. Only emergency calls or pick ups should be made during this time.

**Picture deadline is on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.** Please turn in all funds by tomorrow. Thank you.

**Fine Arts:** Mr. Cunningham

All students (K-5) will begin learning note-reading skills (Rhythms and pitches) as we focus on preparing to play musical instruments. Students will learn note names, including letter names as well as types of notes. We will then spend several weeks playing different types of musical instruments according to age-appropriateness for each grade level. Kinder through 2<sup>nd</sup> will play music on orff mallet instruments, Boomwhackers, and rhythm band instruments, 3<sup>r</sup> will play on Orff mallet instruments and begin learning flutophones, 4<sup>th</sup> grade will begin learning ukuleles and play on flutophones, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will begin learning to play guitars and recorders.

**Physical Education:** Ms Dess

Reminder....Our “School Walk for Diabetes” is next Friday (April 30<sup>th</sup>). We will start with a kic-off assembly in the gym at 10:00 a.m. The walk will follow immediately after. Family and community members are invited to join us. Collection envelopes can be turned in any time before next Friday. So far we have collected \$264.90. Please turn all cash into a check or money order made out to the American Diabetes Association. We really could use some donations of napkins, paper cups, and oranges. The fitness center is generously donating a box or oranges and they are going to have some employees come help us with our fundraising event.

**Diabetes Awareness Spirit Week April 26 – April 30**

**Monday:** “Sock it to Diabetes” (wear whacky socks)

**Tuesday:** “Black Out Diabetes: (wear black clothes)

**Wednesday:** “Hairs to Raising Awareness for Diabetes Education (whacky hair day)

**Thursday:** “Highlight Diabetes Awareness” (wear bright colors)

**Friday:** Bring your “Diabetes Awareness” signs to hold up when you walk.

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

For **Reading** we will be on OCR Unit 8, “By the Sea.” Students will review rhymes in words and songs. They will change initial sounds in words to make new words, continue to work on identifying final consonants in words, review sound/ spellings, identify and read high-frequency words from Decodable books, and blend sounds to make words. For **Language Arts**, students will continue listening to a big book story selection, “Humphrey the Lost Whale,” using comprehension strategies by asking questions and predicting. They will develop the skill of sequencing, identify problems in a plot and resolve the problem, plus locate the title, author, illustrator, and begin to develop and understand the ocean. They will also use vocabulary skill words from the big book selection to develop an understanding of how to put words into categories. They will continue to review words that show action in the past, present and future tenses. For **Math**, students will continue to be introduced to the addition and subtraction symbol, using simple games, continue to understand number stories as another way to (+) and (-) and continue with patterns using blocks.

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

For many weeks we’ve been talking about getting ready for the second grade. This week we will get to see that first hand! On Friday, we are “Stepping Up” and will be spending most of the day in the second grade classrooms. This will give us the opportunity to see what will be expected of us as well as giving us the chance to meet our new teachers. Be sure to ask us about it Friday afternoon. Our

**reading** unit is focusing on what it means to be afraid. We are reading stories that help us to handle our fears by providing different examples of what the story characters do when they are afraid. Every day we are reminded that it is okay to be afraid, but we don't need to fear those things that can't hurt us. By golly I think we've got it! Over the past few weeks we've been introduced to the concepts of **place value and fractions**. This has been very fun and exciting for us. We will be continuing our study of fractions and are asking for your help. When sitting down to a meal, help us to better understand equal parts and sharing when serving food. When handling money, help us to understand what is half, a third and so on. We want to be the best we can be, but we need our families help to do so.

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

The week of April 26<sup>th</sup> we will begin a new unit in **reading**. The unit is entitled, "Our Country and Its People." The first story of this unit is, "The First Americans." This story tells of the first inhabitants of the land that we now call the United States of America. We will be reviewing /z/ sounds as well as reviewing prefixes, suffixes, common nouns, and comparative endings. We will continue working on Unit 8 of Every Day **Math**. This unit focuses on fractions, particularly recognizing fractions as names for parts of a whole, or one.

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

**Reading:** Our new selection is called, "Storm in the Night." "Storm in the Night" is a story that reveals the relationship between a grandfather and grandson. Set against the backdrop of a loud storm on a dark night, the reader sees the dynamics between the two characters as the story unfolds naturally, through their dialogue with one another. Ask your child to tell you about the story.

**Language Arts:** Our words for the week are words with the spellings lf, mb, and tch, such as batch, comb, and half. We will also study author's purpose (the main reason an author write a story, poem, or article); conjunctions (and, but, or); interjections (Ouch! And Hey!); and exact words (exact words give readers clearer and more interesting pictures in their minds). **Math:** We continue Unit 10 and will explore capacity; mean and median; and frequency tables. **Field Trip:** "Treasure Falls" field trip is Thursday, April 29...Please return your child's permission slip. Make sure your child wears comfortable shoes for hiking and dresses in layers as it may be cool or warm. Students may also bring a snack and a water bottle. They will be provided with a sack lunch. Snacks: Again, thank you to the parents who are sending snacks. The class really appreciates them.

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

No information received.

**Grade 5:** Mrs. "E"versgerd and Mrs. Rogers present "Fabulous Fifth Grade Facts"

**Math:** Next week we will be covering adding, subtracting, multiplying, and division of decimals. We will also continue to review fractions by using quick mini lessons. **Reading:** We are continuing our unit, "Making a New Nation." Our story is called, "Shhh! We're Writing the Constitution." The reading strategy to be focused on is fact and opinion. The **grammar** focus will be contractions, negatives, and double negatives. **Writing:** Students will start writing their own fictional stories. Focus will be on developing the plot, setting, characterization, and of course, using details to support the paragraph top sentence. Student will jump forward into their social studies to study in more detail the American Revolution. This will complement the reading unit.