



Dulce Elementary Family Newsletter

April 29, 2010

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Dear Families:

Important Upcoming Dates:

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

May 4th – **Teacher Appreciation Day**

May 6th – **Last day for “Dreams”**

May 6th – **Health Fair** “Back to Basics”

May 6th – **Kindergarten field trip** ‘picnic’ to Mundo Lake

May 12th – **First grade field trip** to the Ghost Ranch

May 14th – **Ranger Phil** visits

May 14th – **Fourth Grade field trip** to the NM Natural History Museum

May 21st – **Field Day** – “Pirates” theme

May 26th – **Honors Assembly**

May 28th – **Last Day of School for students**

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, cheese stick, orange juice

Tuesday: French toast, sausage, applesauce

Wednesday: breakfast burrito, salsa, orange juice

Thursday: ham & egg biscuit, chilled mixed fruit

Friday: assorted dry cereal, fruit yogurt, orange smiles

Lunch next week: *Jose’ Baca*

Monday: green chili stew, tortilla, veggie sticks/dressing, chilled fruit

Tuesday: ham & cheese sub, lettuce, tomato& pickles, baked chips, melon

Wednesday: hot turkey sandwich, mashed potato w/gravy, green beans, orange smiles

Thursday: breaded chicken, corn, roll, chilled fruit

Friday: Frito pie, lettuce & tomato, tater tots, grapes

Reminder: 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.*

Fine Arts: Mr. Cunningham

All students (K-5) will continue 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 (whole, half, quarter, eighth). We will begin spending several weeks playing different types of musical instruments according to age-appropriateness for each grade level. Kinder through 2nd graders will be playing music on Orff mallet instruments, Boomwhackers, and rhythm band instruments, 3rd graders will be playing on Orff mallet instruments and learning flutophones, 4th graders have begun learning to play ukuleles and will also play flutophones, and 5th graders have begun learning to play guitars and will also learn recorders.

Physical Education: Ms Dess

This week in P.E. the 3-5th graders ran the mile. If they beat their score from the beginning of the year, they do not have to run it again next week (unless they choose to). The K-2nd graders have been playing some fun games I created that go along with some great children's books. We read What Time is it Mr. Cocodile?, then we played a fun tag game to go along with it. We also read Dinosaurs Love Underpants, and played a fun chasing, fleeing, and dodging game to go along with the book. The students loved the books as well as the games. **Remember, our "School Walk for Diabetes" is this Friday. We will kick-off the walk with a short assembly at 10:00 a.m. in the elementary gym; then, the whole school will participate in a 1 mile walk.** After the walk we will enjoy water and orange slices on the playground. Please turn in all collection envelopes to me on or before Friday. So far I have only collected three envelopes. We are still in need of the following donations for our walk this Friday; oranges, napkins, and paper cups. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

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

For Open Court **Reading**, in the story "Down by the Sea," students will identify rhymes through songs and games, blend and say words in a story context, add sounds to words to make new words, identify initial and final sounds, find and read high-frequency words, blend words and read them in sentences, and read a decodable book, A Ramp. For **Language Arts**, students will become familiar with the word 'antonym' and understand that antonyms are words that are opposite, or nearly opposite in meaning. They will continue to review words that show action in the past, present, and future tenses and learn to form/write letters Yy and Zz. For **Comprehension**, kinder will identify a title, names of authors and illustrators, focus on print directionality and sentence structure. They will develop and understand the language of the 'ocean' using vocabulary skill words and apply comprehension strategies by asking questions, using predictions and sequencing. For **Math**, students will use an assortment of timers to become familiar with measuring time, use calculators to skip count by 2s, 5s, and 10s using symbols (+) and (-) and use symbols to create and extend patterns in their math books.

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

As our days together get smaller and smaller, our plate becomes fuller and fuller. Soon we will be starting our **end of year assessments** in Open Court **Reading**, Everyday **Math**, and DIBELS. It is important that we get a good night's sleep every night and eat breakfast every morning. The teachers of the first grade ask that as we continue to read 20 minutes every night, our families time us for one minute and keep track of how many words we read in that minute. We are preparing ourselves for the upcoming field trip. Please keep an eye out for permission slips and more information. We're headed to Ghost Ranch on the 12th. It's right around the corner! We are very excited! In **math**, we are continuing our studies of place value and fractions. Each day, continue helping us practice using

some of the games and activities our teachers have been sending home. As always, we couldn't do anything without the support of our families. Keep it up!

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

We will be continuing with Unit 6 in **reading**, which includes stories of historical fiction. In Unit 6, Lesson 2, students will be reading the story "New Hope." In **Language Arts** we will be reviewing the usage of capitalization, commas, and quotation marks. Students will also review the spelling patterns for the suffixes -ful and -less. In **math** the children will be beginning Unit 9, which covers measurement. In Unit 9.1, the students will estimate and measure using nonstandard measurement units, develop an understanding of the importance of standard units, and measure using a yardstick.

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

Reading: our new selection is called, "Carving the Pole." "Carving the Pole" tells about a Tsimshian from the state of Washington who transforms a cedar log into a totem pole. Students learn what the animal shapes and faces on the totem pole symbolize. Ask your child to tell you about the story.

Language Arts: Our words for this week are words with the /e/ sound in words such as woman, eleven, and button. We will also learn about capitalization and underling; elaborating and expanding sentences; and cultural words from the story, "Carving the Pole." **Math:** We will continue Unit 10 and learn about frequency tables as students find the median, mean, and mode of data sets. They will be introduced to coordinate grids and then begin Unit 11 on probability. Snacks: Again, thank you to the parents who are sending snacks. The class really appreciates it.

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

Reading: We have completed Unit 4 and will be reviewing to take the end of the unit assessment.

Language Arts: Review of punctuation marks, contractions, adjectives, coordinating conjunctions and prepositions. **Writing:** Topic sentence and organizing paragraph. We will continue with the diabetes education in **science**. **Math:** Fractions, multiplication, and division.

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

One fact about the fifth graders is they are fabulous. They have been working very hard and have learned so much. Keep up the good work everyone. Here is what is coming up: **Math:** Students will be adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing with decimals. Students did a great job on the math assessment for fractions. **Language Arts:** We will conclude our unit on "Making a Nation". Our story for the week is titled, "We, the People of the United States". **Grammar:** We will review all of the grammar concepts we have covered this unit: types of sentences, subject-verb agreement, misused words, comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs, direct and indirect objects, and contractions, negatives, and double negatives. **Writing:** Students will be editing and rewriting a piece of writing they have already completed. They will read their own work and with coaching decide how they can make their piece better. **Social Studies:** Students will be working on their research projects. Instead of a research paper, which we have already done, they will be doing presentations. Presentations may be plays, posters with a verbal explanation, character speeches (where they dress as the historical figure and give the presentation), etc. This will allow the creative ideas to flow. Parents, please feel free to help with the presentations and research. (Mrs. E's class has just finished a research paper for history so this for Mrs. Roger's class only.) **Science:** Bob will come down off the shelf and we will continue our study of the human body.