



“Our mission is to educate, nurture, and provide a safe learning environment for our students, in order to instill a love of learning to produce life-long learners. We will accomplish this by using data driven-instruction, consistency, and collaboration among all stakeholders. By instilling high expectations, we will create well-educated, well-informed members of society. “

Dear Families:



We certainly enjoyed your sharing our Thanksgiving luncheon with us last Wednesday. A special thank you is extended to Jose’ Baca and all the wonderful cooks at the elementary.



We had a great turnout for our annual Book Fair/Reading Family Night, “Reading is out of this World.” After enjoying a hamburger and hotdog dinner, our students and their families delighted in decorating cookies, designing door hangers, rocket making, and selecting new books from the book fair. A very special thank you to those of you who donated a book to your child’s classroom.



Mark your calendar.....

November 23	Early release (1:30) for Thanksgiving holiday weekend
November 24 - 25	Thanksgiving Holiday - No school
December 15	Winter Program 1:30 community performance
December 19 - January 3	Winter Break



Breakfast is being served in the classroom from 8:00 - 8:20. All lunches include additional vegetable, salad, or fruit. Salad bar is included for grades 3-5.

	Breakfast Menu	Lunch Menu
Monday	sausage egg biscuit, juice	chicken fajitas, refried beans, salsa, fruit
Tuesday	waffle bites, fruit	ham & cheese mini subs, baked fries, fruit
Wednesday	breakfast burrito, juice	nacho grande’, refried beans, fruit
Thursday	No School - Thanksgiving Holiday	
Friday	No School - Thanksgiving Holiday	

Fine Arts: Mr. Cunningham

Mission Statement: “We are in Mr. C.’s Fine Arts class to have fun learning how to express ourselves by singing, playing instruments, and creating art. We will do this by working hard, being respectful, and helping each other as we explore the world around us through the arts.”

All classes this week are beginning to memorize lyrics and learn music, skit, and movement selections for our winter program. So far, the students and classroom teachers have chosen quite a variety of selections, and we should have a great program this year. This week we will also continue learning to use “body percussion” (snapping, clapping, patting, and stamping) to perform simple and complex rhythms, and we will continue practicing skip count songs to help reinforce our math skills. **The DES 2011 Winter Program will take place on Thursday, December 15th, (dress rehearsal/staff & student performance at 9:30 am, with the main community performance at 1:30 pm) so please make plans now to attend.**

Physical Education News: Ms. Dess

Vision: To become lifelong movers! Mission Statement: “We are here to discover that learning sports skills, cooperative games, and improving our fitness can be fun!”

This week in PE we will be doing Thanksgiving themed activities that will benefit the fitness components of strength, endurance and flexibility. K-2nd graders will start off with a “Let’s Give Thanks” warm-up activity. I will name a food served at Thanksgiving, demonstrate the movement that correlates with that food, and when the music goes on students practice that move to the music. For example, for turkey the students must run around the gym flapping their “wings” and gobble like a turkey. For green beans, students must walk on their tip toes while balancing on a floor line. Third-5th graders

will do a turkey relay warm-up. Students will be divided into groups of 3 and each group will be lined up on one end line. Several turkey cut-outs with exercises written on each one will be placed in the “turkey pen” (a coned off circle on the opposite end of the gym). On the “go” signal the first student will run to the turkey pen, grab a turkey, run back to their team, and the whole team must do that exercise together. Then, the next person in line repeats the process. This activity continues until all turkey cut-outs are gone. After the warm-up, we will play two fun games that will help improve cardiovascular endurance and chasing, fleeing, and dodging skills. The first one is called “Turkey Round-up.” About 5-7 students are chosen to be farmers. All other students are turkeys. The turkeys will start in the turkey pen (the circle in the middle of the gym). In each corner of the gym, there will be four turkey feed bins (hula hoops each with numerous bean bags in them). The turkeys are hungry so they try to leave the pen and go take some food from the farmers’ food bins and bring it back to the turkey pen. If a turkey gets tagged, s/he must put the food back in the bin and go stand on a dinner plate (a hoop placed on the side lines) and gobble like a turkey. Another turkey can rescue the captured turkey by grabbing the tagged turkey by the hand and leading the turkey safely back to the pen. The second game we will play is called “Thanksgiving Tag.” About 5-7 students are chosen to be family members. All other students are turkeys. The family is trying to catch the fleeing turkeys so they can eat them for Thanksgiving dinner. The turkeys can save themselves by going down on one knee and calling out the name of another food the family can eat for Thanksgiving (stuffing, pumpkin pie, mashed potatoes, etc.). If they do get tagged, they must stand on one foot, flap their “wings”, and gobble like a turkey until another turkey comes and gives them a High 5. If we have extra time, students will get some free time to shoot hoops, jump rope, throw passes with a football, or do some other fun activity.

Library: Mrs. Vigil

Thanks to all of you for support our Book Fair. The money from the book fair goes to purchase new books for the library for all our students to enjoy.

Computer Lab: Ms. Beall

Kinder will be doing starfall.com and kid pix; First will be doing Type to Learn 4, starfall.com, and studyisland.com; Second will be doing clicknread.com, starfall.com, and kid pix; Third will be working on word, Math Facts in a Flash, and Studyisland.com; Fourth grade will be working on Searching on the internet, Type to Learn 4, Math Facts in a Flash and Studyisland.com; Fifth will be finishing their research paper on lion, Math Facts in a Flash, and Type to Learn 4. MAP testing will be starting the week of November 28th.

English Language Interventionist K-2; Mrs. Bradley

Mission Statement: *To ensure all English Language Learners increase their language proficiency by providing high quality language instruction that is scientifically based.*

Kindergarten—This is a short school week, we will be reviewing our skills and extending them using letter/sound games in class. **First Grade**—First Grade will be reviewing their sight words and using them to play board games to increase fluency.

Second Grade – Second Graders will be reviewing their skills this week with comprehension board games.

Reading Lab: Mrs. Julian

Mission Statement: The mission of the reading lab is to enable all reading lab students to meet or exceed their personal learning goals toward proficiency in reading by providing high quality instruction of targeted essential skills using research-based interventions.

This week 5th graders in the Read 180 and System 44 programs will begin differentiated instruction of basic reading comprehension skills, based on student need as indicated from a recent skills assessment.

This week 4th graders in the Read 180 and System 44 programs will begin instruction in Workshop 2, “Coming to America,” about the history of immigration to America and the hardships of moving to America. This week’s lessons will be focused on viewing the anchor video clips, organizing data in a graphic organizer, and vocabulary building. System 44 students’ instruction will continue focusing on skills based on student needs.

This week 3rd graders that are receiving System 44 instruction will focus on skills based on individual student needs. The focus of this week’s lessons will continue on contrasting short vowels and consonants.

****Important Information:** Homework for the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade reading intervention lab is to read daily for a minimum of 20 minutes per day. A reading log will be sent home for parents to sign off daily. **Parents of students not returning homework on Friday will receive a call to inform you that your child has not completed the homework for the week.**

Read 180/Systems 44: Mrs. Ford

This coming week, our **fifth graders** and **fourth graders** will complete the Word Challenges using vocabulary from their respective workshops. We will also read individually and chorally some Thanksgiving poems and a play about the Pilgrims. The **third graders** will read a story entitled “Jake’s Pets.” As a class, we will practice writing constructed responses to answer questions about the story by first restating the question! All students will also have some time to read independently

in their leveled books, and to work on the computer with individualized instruction in Read 180 and Systems 44. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving vacation and enjoy your friends and family. ☺

Kindergarten: Mrs. Gutierrez, Ms Laub, Mrs. Wager

Math: this week the students will compare shapes, explore size and angle measures of shapes. Introduce subtraction terminology and symbols using number stories and counters. We will provide practice with number writing and other numeration skills. Language Arts: They will review summarizing and making inferences. Describe the reason for a characters actions, make connections to ideas in other texts. Categorize words with the same beginning sounds and identify words in speech and text.

1st Grade: Ms “B”reeding, Ms Ferralez, Mr. Hill

Before we take time off for turkey, we will be reading about “Beth and the Band”. While reading this week’s selection we will be practicing how to visualize and retell the stories that we read. This week we will also be practicing our consonant digraphs sh, th, and -ng. In math we will begin learning different strategies for subtracting such as counting back, using a number line and connecting blocks. We hope everyone has a safe and happy Thanksgiving. Thanks for all that you do to help us be better students.

2nd Grade: Ms Baird, Mrs. Martinez, Mrs. Valdez

Second grade will be doing Thanksgiving activities and reading Thanksgiving Stories. Students will be writing about what they are thankful for. In Math, students will be concluding chapter 7. Students are working with shapes, symmetry, slides, flips, and turns. Student will continue to solve problems with patterns. We would like for you to read with your child every night. We hope that you have a safe and happy Thanksgiving. Be thankful for all of the wonderful people and things we have in our lives.

3rd Grade: Ms Corr, Mrs. Fuller, Mr. Shields

Do to the unexpected change in our schedule last week and the shortened week next week due to Thanksgiving Holiday break; we will finish our first story in unit 3 titled “Author: A True Story” next week. This is an Autobiography selection. Using this story, students will learn how to identify the author’s purpose. Students will continue to develop their comprehension skills through reading and generating questions. This week’s spelling list will focus on r-controlled vowels /er/, /ir/, /ur/. For example: /shirt/, /burn/, /her/. In math we will be finishing Chapter five and preparing for the test. The student’s objectives in this chapter are to learn subtraction rules, estimate differences, subtract two-, three-, and four-digit numbers with and without regrouping, and to solve problems using skills and strategies learned.

4th Grade: Ms Gray, Ms Jamerson, Mrs. Velarde

Our fieldtrip to the Governor’s Mansion and the New Mexico State Capitol was a huge success...! Our reading program continues to focus on animal awareness with our story, *Mystic Horses* and will wrap up with a unit review. Sequencing skills, cause and effect, and story structure will be reviewed. Writing lessons will continue to focus on descriptive details while reviewing strong verbs and plural possessive nouns. Math continues to focus on multiplication properties and division skills. Remember that Character Counts and *Caring* is a special trait that can be shared with your friends and family.

5th Grade: Mrs. “E”versgerd, Ms. Pixley, Mrs. Thomas

In Math this week, the fifth graders will be reviewing division, taking a test of Chapter 4 on Tuesday and practicing subtraction with zeros. In Reading, the fifth graders will be reading a story called “Tricky Tales” which is a Native American coyote tale. They will be working on compare/contrast and summarizing. In Language Arts, the fifth graders will be learning about homographs and main and helping verbs. Writing assignments will deal with fictional narrative. Reading and Spelling tests will be on Wednesday. In Science, the fifth graders will be studying the three states of matter and working with the periodic table. Have a fantastic Thanksgiving! Come back rested and ready to rock and roll for the rest of the semester.

