

# Dawson Elementary School Newsletter

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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Report Cards  
April 16<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ Girl's Night-  
April 26<sup>th</sup>. Gr. 5
- ◆ PTA-April 13th
- ◆ SIMCO- April 13<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ Boy's Night-  
April 14<sup>th</sup>-Gr. 5
- ◆ Spring Break  
Apr. 19<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>

## Principal's News

April showers bring May flowers and with the amount of rain we have been having we should have flowers everywhere!

Dawson is busy getting ready for spring. We have finished our first round of MCAS testing in grades three through five and will be working on makeups. We have had enrichment programs for all grades. I would like to thank you all for your continued support at all grade levels.

Every year our school receives a report card as required by the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). This report card contains information on student achievement and school/district accountability. You can get more information on the district web site. If you are unable to access this information please contact the school and one will be sent home to you.

## Dear Parents

It was wonderful seeing many of you at the annual Pancake Breakfast. The food was delicious and having many of you here to share in this school event is always heartwarming. One parent stated it is like being in "Mayberry." I have to agree. Dawson School brings families and children together in a very special way.

We have many wonderful things happening this year. Children have been working hard to develop their academic and workstudy skills at each grade level. I have seen many wonderful projects developed in class and at home. I am impressed with the level of dedication by the students, parents and teachers.

This year grade 4 is learning about their environment and the

importance of taking care of the earth. As a cumulative activity they will be presenting a Water Festival to parents and community members. On April 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 7:30 PM students will demonstrate the importance of conserving water usage through displays and other interactive activities. Jim Lafley of the DCR will be here as a guest speaker as well.

Mrs. Koziol's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class continues their community service activities. This month they are working with their second grade buddies and other classrooms to make a 1,000 paper cranes. They will be collecting the cranes and sending them to The Thousand Paper Crane Club in Japan to display on their monument.

It is that time of year when everyone is out enjoying the beautiful spring weather. You will see many students walking and riding their bikes to school. Please be cautious as you travel in and out of the school.

We will be offering spring pictures on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Flyers have been sent home. Information regarding the pictures is on the flyer. If you need a flyer, please contact the school.

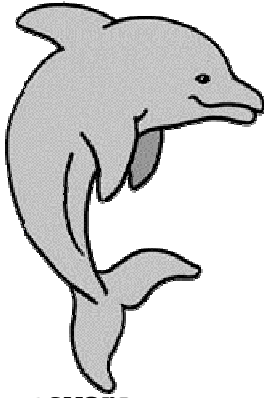
**All grades will be getting their third term progress reports on Friday April 16<sup>th</sup>. Please review the reports with your child. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher.**

Remember that school vacation begins April 19<sup>th</sup> and ends on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. School resumes on April 26<sup>th</sup>!

## IALAC

March's IALAC theme was **Honesty**. Honesty is being sincere, truthful, trustworthy honorable, fair, genuine, and loyal. When you are honest you accept responsibility for your actions, and don't blame others. When you are honest you feel good about yourself and you demonstrate all the fine qualities of an individual who is working towards being the best student that they can be.

April's IALAC theme is **Perseverance**. Perseverance is continuing to do something in spite of obstacles or difficulties. It is one of the best qualities to have because with perseverance success in your endeavors is almost guaranteed. Some advice you might want to consider when trying something new is to set a time limit to complete a project. If you find that the deadline is approaching and you will not meet your goal, you may need to change your strategy to complete your project successfully. Never quit on your goals, only change the way you approach them. Check out the **IALAC** link on the website for more information



**perseverance**

“in recognition for demonstrating the qualities of **perseverance**. Perseverance is commitment, hard work, patience, and endurance. Perseverance is trying and trying again.

## Upcoming Events

Watch the school and PTA calendar for upcoming events as they are always changing. Visit the school website for updated news! As of now...

**April 6<sup>th</sup>** Reptiles and Rainforest Animals  
Grade 3

**April 7<sup>th</sup>**- School Pictures

**April 13<sup>th</sup>** - PTA 7:00 - Library

**April 13<sup>th</sup>**- **Girl's Night** 6:30 - Cafeteria

**April 13<sup>th</sup>**-SIMCO - 7:00 - Conference Rm

**April 14<sup>th</sup>**- Community Reading Day  
**Boys Night**- 6:30-8:30 - Cafeteria

**April 15<sup>th</sup>**- **Water Festival**- 6-7:30PM

**April 16<sup>th</sup>**- **Report Cards**  
**Return student surveys**  
Gr. 2 play - 10am school, 2pm parents

**April 19-23** Spring Break - **NO SCHOOL**

**April 26<sup>th</sup>**- **Girl's Night** 6:30-8:30

**April 28<sup>th</sup>**- Gr. 5 program- British Soldier

## Curriculum

Children are engaged in all areas of the curriculum. Reader's Workshop continues and Writer's Workshop has taken off in all grades. It is wonderful to see how engaged and focused students are in their writing. They are very proud of their final drafts as are the teachers and myself.

We continue our efforts in math and making sure we cover our state and district curriculum frameworks. Here are some of the things we are working on. Grade 2 was busy learning about matter, 3 is working on the water cycle, and 4 is working on rocks and minerals. This is just a sampling of the types of units of study that we teach and your children learn about.

When you walk down the hallways you can see many other examples of student work and units of study that teachers prepare and instruct your child in.

## This Month's Study Tip

**Take care of yourself!** Take rests when you are tired. Study takes longer and the brain is less effective when you are tired or stressed. Plan your time so that you get breaks. A change of scene stimulates the brain and helps creative thinking.

Where is the dictionary? A dictionary is a great tool to refer to when writing. Using the dictionary improves spelling skills, vocabulary, and organization. Keep it in a handy place and refer to it often!

**Yours in IALAC,**

**Patricia A, Scales, Principal**