

# Dawson Elementary School Newsletter

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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ 1/9 High School Meeting
- ◆ PTA
- ◆ Martin Luther King Jr. 1/16
- ◆ Early Release- 1/25

## Principal's News

Happy New Year! Here it is, January 2012! May you all find this to be a healthy, happy, and prosperous one for you and all those that you care for.

Everyone returned to school rested and ready to go! The custodians worked very hard getting our school clean and shiny.

December was a very busy month and I enjoyed seeing many of you at the Winter Concert. All of the children did a fabulous job under the direction of the music teacher, Mr. Egebretson.

There are many programs scheduled for the month of January and February. I would like to thank all of you for continuing to support the fundraising activities that provide for these programs.

## Dear Parents

As we move into the New Year, I am beginning to look at our accomplishments since September. Each grade has been working hard to plan and implement lessons in all curriculum areas that will challenge and engage your child. I would like to thank the many parent volunteers who help in the classrooms. Your support is always appreciated. Just a reminder that if you have an interest that you would like to share with your child's class please let your child's teacher know. Your interests and travels help to enhance the curriculum.

Many of you have asked about outdoor recess and the temperature at which the children go out. I am an advocate of fresh air and exercise. If the temperature is 20 or higher the children go out. If it is lower than 20 and depending on the wind chill, I give the kids an abbreviated outdoor recess of 10- 15 minutes. This gives them time to run around and get some fresh

air. They then come in and finish their recess indoors. It is hard for them to be indoors all day and they could use the fresh air and some time to get all that built-up energy out after lunch.

Hats, gloves/mittens, warm coats, and even boots make recess warmer for the children. If we have snow, and the children have snow gear, (snowpants, etc.) they will be allowed to play on the field. Otherwise kids are asked to stay on the blacktop areas. It sure isn't as much fun on the blacktop if you can play in the snow! If it is rainy we stay indoors. Please be sure to label all clothing. We have a growing lost and found.

### School Survey:

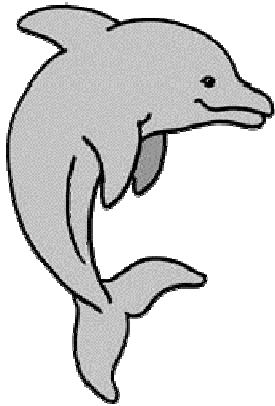
### Communication

The staff communicates with parents in a variety of ways. The most common method is by phone. You may call to speak with a teacher during the day however if they are teaching they will get back to you as soon as they are able. Mrs. Dwyer will put your call into their voice mail and your child's teacher will get back to you as quickly as possible. Many parents find email a convenient method of communication. Newsletters and other types of paper announcements are used regularly as well.

Please be sure to inform the office and your child's teacher if there is a change in any contact information. This is very important when responding or calling in the event of an emergency.

Connect-ed is another method of communication. We are trying to make a call once a week to inform you of any upcoming events and news.

The website gives information about upcoming events and newsletters, too. To conserve paper, henceforth these newsletters will only appear on the website and will no longer be sent home.



## Attitude

“for always being positive. You never give up and try to do your best. You make others around you work harder by demonstrating your positive attitude.

## IALAC

December’s theme was **Generosity**. Students and families were generous in giving, not just with gifts or money, but with our words, thoughts, and deeds. It is the way we give to our family, friends and even our pets!

January’s IALAC theme is **Attitude**. Attitude is important because it can either positively or negatively affect the people that are around you. Having a positive attitude affects your performance in school and at home. Excelling is not a skill it is an attitude.

A very famous and influential man named Winston Churchill once said, **“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.”**

## 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.....

**Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>** State of the District Address given by the Superintendent at 7PM in the High School Auditorium

**Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>** PTA Meeting at 7 in School library.

**Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>**- Martin Luther King Day- No School

**Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>**- K-Flynn- Music Concert  
10:45- 11:15 AM

**Jan 25<sup>th</sup>**- half day -Professional Development- No PM K 12:20 dismissal

## Curriculum

Teachers and students have been working hard these past months. As always the lessons are engaging, goal specific and differentiated to meet the individual needs of the students.

We are finding that our students are working hard to master their skills. More importantly we are striving to keep them motivated to do the best job that they can. It is so important to have the "CAN DO" attitude.

As assessment time rolls around, it is helpful to send the same message to your child. Keep a positive attitude, do your best and keep trying until you feel satisfied with the results.

## Student News

We begin our day in a new way! Each morning a grade 5 student comes to the office to give the rest of the school the daily announcements including the day of the year, temperature, events or other activity. They then lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. To finish they read a motivational quote and wish everyone a happy and productive day. What a great way to start our day and get us ready and prepared to go. Thank you grade 5 teachers and students!

## Student News

Students in Mrs. Horton and Mrs. St. Germain’s class have been keeping us all informed with their classroom newsletters. They are on the website for all to enjoy!

*Wishing you all a happy and prosperous New Year!*

*Yours in IALAC,*

*Patricia A. Scalos, Principal*