

Dawson Elementary School Newsletter

November 1, 2011

Volume 5, Issue 5

"Developing our students' knowledge, skills and talents to the fullest so they can make the world a better place for all".

Patricia A. Scales, Principal

Barbara M. Diamond, Assistant Principal

Principal's News

It is November and we have experienced our first snow storm. That was unbelievable! It brings back many unpleasant memories of an ice storm a few years back!

The Book Fair was a success! A special thank you goes to the many parent volunteers who made the Book Fair a success.

Another thank you goes to Nancy Gaudette for putting together the PTA directory. Remember it is not too late to join the PTA!

Wish lists were passed out the night of the Open House to support **Why Me**.

Thank you to the many families who volunteered to purchase gifts for those families and children in need.

Many parents attended the 21st Century Skills presentation at the High School. The superintendent shared some of his thoughts on where we, as a District, are heading. More information will be coming to you as the year progresses.

school. To make it easier it would be appreciated if you could cut them out and send them in a baggie labeled with your child's name and homeroom. Check the PTA website for other information pertaining to fundraising.

School Survey: School Environment

The past 6 weeks or so I have met with one class from grade 2-5 to talk about bullying. We have shared what bullying looks like, strategies to deal with it, and ways to make Dawson a safe and enjoyable place to be. We have read books, made posters, and role-played ways to stomp out bullying. I am very proud of these students. Over the next several weeks I will work with another group of students to learn the same strategies. Meeting with each group of students gives me the opportunity to learn more about them and to see that we are all invested in having a respectable school environment.

School Lunch

Our cafeteria manager, Sue Hudson and her staff work very hard to provide a healthy and nutritious lunch each day. Many of you have noticed that we are now offering smoothies at lunch. This is another alternative to the lunches we prepare for students. The smoothies are made fresh. Cheese sticks, healthier crackers, milk, and fruit are also part of the lunch.

In addition to the main meal students are offered alternates. Alternates may be fresh salads, bagels, special of the week, and pizza. All lunches have fresh vegetables and fruit. Students are required to take two choices when buying lunch. I will be taking pictures of our lunches and putting them on the website for you to see the lunches and choices available for your child.

Grade 4 Fundraiser to support Alex's Lemonade Stand was a huge success. Your support raised over \$600.00. Look for the lemon pledges in the cafeteria. Your generosity in thinking of others before yourself is truly IALAC!



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Upcoming Events

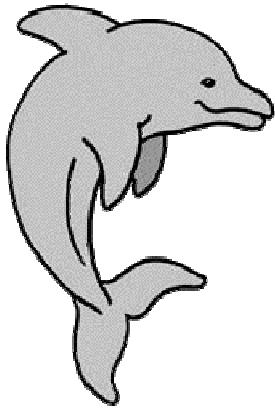
- ◆ Thanksgiving Recess
- ◆ Professional Development Day
- ◆ PTA
- ◆ SIMCO
- ◆ Report Cards

Dear Parents

As you know we have some cooler weather ahead.

Please be sure to dress your child for the cold weather. Remember those hats, mittens, gloves, and boots! **Labeling your child's belongings is a good idea as we always seem to have many lost items in our lost and found.** Unless it is very cold or rainy we like to have the children get some fresh air. We have a growing lost and found. If you are missing any jackets, sweaters, or other articles you may want to check the table in the cafeteria. We have a big selection of lost clothing. Please be sure to check often as we will give all unclaimed articles to a worthy charity.

Many of you continue to send in your box tops and we truly benefit from an easy way to generate funds for the



Respect

“has demonstrated respect by taking turns, compromising, doing your part, showing appreciation, encouraging people, making people feel needed, and never excluding anyone.

IALAC

This month’s theme is Respect. Respect means taking the time to realize that everyone sees and experiences the world in a unique way. Once you realize these differences you can make efforts to respect people in the way they feel special and unique.

Being respectful and courteous teaches us to be tolerant of others and to do the “right thing.”

December’s theme is Generosity. To be generous is to help those in need, be sensitive to others’ feelings, and to give without wanting something in return.

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.....

Nov. 3rd and 4th- K conferences
November 7th- Special’s switch

November 14th- Report Cards 3-5
Only students in K-2 have conferences

November 2nd- Grade 1 conferences

November 3rd and 4th- K conferences

November 7th- Special’s Switch

November 8th- PTA 7:00 Library

November 10th- No School- Full day professional development

November 11th- Veteran's Day

November 15th- SIMCO- 7:00 school library

November 16th and 17th- Grade 2 conferences

November 17th- Eyes on Owls presentation Grade 2

PLEASE NOTE Thanksgiving recess.....
Nov. 23rd- 27th - Thanksgiving Recess no school. There is no school on the 23rd!

Study Tip

It is no surprise when we say that reading is the foundation of success in school and in life.

The ability to read and write is important in order to master other content areas and to be able to communicate what is learned.

Parents’ have an important role in the development of their child’s reading skills. Help your child develop good reading skills by following some simple steps.

Read aloud to your child. Children learn to be good readers by listening to the flow of language and being exposed new vocabulary.

Try this...stop before the end of the story. Ask you child what she/he thinks will happen next. Making predictions is important in developing critical thinking skills.

Important Bussing Information

On occasion we experience unanticipated bus delays or a child does not get off at their expected stop. When a bus is going to be late by a few minutes the bus company calls us. It is sometimes difficult to reach you at home as many of you are waiting at the bus stop. I appreciate your call if your child is later than usual. If a young child’s parent is not at home and there is no one at the stop the bus company reports it to us and returns them to school. We then call to find a parent or another trusted adult on the emergency card that can come to the school to get them. I am going to provide you the bus company’s number in the event you are unable to reach school and you need to reach them (800) 483- 1669.

Thank you for your continued support and hard work as we move into our second term of the school year.

*Yours in IALAC,
Patricia A. Scales, Principal*