



Mitchell Mustang

Volume 31 Issue 4

December 2006

From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Parents,

Every year Mitchell sends out a Quality of Education Parent Survey. We have just received the results of last year's survey and I would like to share them with you. The survey was made up of twenty statements and parents were to indicate if they did not know, strongly agreed, agreed, disagreed or strongly disagreed with each statement. Each statement had anywhere from 4% to 2% of respondents leaving the statement unanswered. I have selected some of the statements that are the most telling about how parents feel concerning Mitchell. Over four hundred surveys were distributed and 196 or 47.3% were returned. According to the APS Research, Development and Accountability Department, a return rate of over 30% makes for a valid survey. The statements and answers I would like to share with you are the following:

Important Dates

- Dec. 4: PTO Meeting, 6:30pm
- Dec.18 –Jan.2 Winter Break, No School



Statement	% agree/ strongly agree	% disagree/ strongly disagree	don't know
1. My child is safe at school.	84.2%	6.6%	4.6%
2. My child's teacher provides sufficient/appropriate information regarding his academic progress.	90.9%	3.0%	1.0%
3. The teacher has high expectations and a variety of accountability measures for my child.	90.3%	2.5%	2.6%
4. My child's teacher welcomes me in the classroom.....	87.2%	3.6%	0.0%
5. My child has adequate choice of school-sponsored extracurricular activities.	58.1%	25%	12.2%
6. The school offers adequate access to up-to-date computers and technology.	74%	4.6%	15.8%

Statements #5 and #6 had a very large number of respondents marked "don't know", so I'd like to share some information. Mitchell, thanks to the untiring resolve of some very giving and tireless individuals this year, is able to offer more after school activities to our students such as:

- Chorus
 - Tutoring
 - Chess Club
 - Cycling Club
 - Outdoor Adventure
 - Climbing Club
 - Sewing Club
 - Boys' Basketball
 - Girls' Basketball
- Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts also meet at Mitchell. Additional information is available in the office.

Thank you Ronda Schripsema, Laurie Aragon, John McNett, Caitlin Robinson, Meredith Adolf, Susan Stearns, Joan Weninger, Debbie Sprague, Karen McElroy, Delise Hargis, and Troy Maes for your time and commitment to offering our students these excellent after school activities. If you would like to assist with any of these activities, please contact the office at 299-1937.

(Continued on next page)

For additional info on Mitchell PTO check out:

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From the Principal's Desk, cont...

We have over 200 computers at Mitchell Elementary. We have enough computers so that each classroom can have several computers for students, if the teacher so chooses. Each teacher has a computer at his/her desk. We have two computer labs with close to 30 computers in each lab. Each child can work on their computer projects in the lab, while working on individual computers. We are pleased to say we have enough computers and monitors for each child in the class. In the past, students were asked to share due to a lack of computers. We just purchased a mobile laptop cart that holds 30 laptops and can be signed out to classrooms as needed. The entire school is wired for Internet use, so access to the Internet is quick and universal. Students go once a week to the computer lab from 45 minutes to an hour, depending on grade level. Passage of GO Bonds by the community and the generosity of our local state legislators have helped keep Mitchell on the cutting edge of technology.

We have much to be proud of at Mitchell Elementary. Thank you for all you do to help us be the wonderful school that we are today.

Raquel Reedy

Principal



From the PTO President's Desk...

First of all, I want to say thanks to all the families who came to our first ever swim night! We had a blast and didn't have to turn anyone away. We will definitely be planning another one of these nights - so keep your ears open for the dates and times.

I can't believe it is already "that time of year" again! It seems that each year Christmas just keeps coming faster and faster. I hope you all used the Original Works fundraiser for your early shopping. These are expected to arrive at the school the week of December 4. Thank you to all who participated in this event. The kid's artworks were so wonderful.

Don't forget that the PTO meets the first Monday of the month in the admin office at 6:30. We would love to see you there.

Have a wonderful break with your kids and see you in the new year!!

Eddie Guess - President



Chess Team Has a Successful Meet

The Mitchell Chess Team had its 2nd meet on November 16th. They won 9 games and lost 6. Congratulations to Mr. McNett and the whole team!

Congratulations to Box Tops Winners!

Matt Slempe	Sandoval/Botz
Kyla Cook	Encinias
Abby White	Szwed

We collected \$227. in Box Tops! Please keep sending them in and don't forget to write your child's name & teacher on the back.

Clothing Bank Needs Warm Coats

The Clothing Bank has a shortage of warm jackets and coats, especially in sizes 7-8 and 10-12. If you have any that you hadn't sent in during the Clothing Drive or would like to donate a new coat, please drop them off at the office and we'll make sure they get to the Clothing Bank. Thanks for your help!

Students are Climbing the Walls!

PE classes are enjoying the new climbing wall in the gym. Coming Soon... The Climbing Club with Susan Stearns and a climbing wall for our playground.

From The December Library Bookshelf...

The Reading Rainforest Book Fair was a HUGE success because of all of you. We have never done so well. **Thank you all for participating.** The profit from our sales goes into buying library books that the students have told me they *want* to read. I will also be purchasing materials that Scholastic and other companies offer to improve our collection for both students and teachers.

I also would like to **thank** the volunteers who made this Book Fair such a success! They were my support. I could not have done all they did alone. They, along with their children, decorated, set-up, cleaned up, cashiered, put up signs, and so much more. These people were:

Paula Adams (Alyssa Adams)	Jennifer Brown-Ellington (Caleb Ellington)
Lynella Ferguson (Marcus Ferguson)	Guada & Matilda Garcia (J.B. Martinez Garcia)
Jill Hotchkiss (Aspen Hotchkiss)	Lisa Jaramillo (Caleb Jaramillo)
Martha Kurley (Paulette Chasing Hawk)	Jan Rehren (Bobby Rehren-Zepeda & Calista)
Stacy Scott-Sturgess (Catie Sturgess)	Jenny White (Abby White)

Many staff members supported this Book Fair and I thank you all! (You know who you are!)

The One For Books program once again showed that we have many generous students and families at this school who demonstrate **CARING** for others. This program allowed 67 children to receive books that they never could buy for themselves. These generous people are:

\$25.00	Shirley Baca		
\$11-\$20:	Mathew Isler	Casey, Gus & Luke Estrada	Johanna Hernandez
\$6-\$10:	Lyndsay Irwin Diana & Olivia Sears	Abby White	Rachel Rose
\$4-\$5:	Dale Chapman Samantha Jackson Jacob Jones Caroline Caffery Oscar Lin Helen Ngo Evan Ortiz Katrina Lucero	Jonah Hoffman Jaylen Domina-Lovato Elora O'Neil Connor Caffery Sarah Loy Jonathan Cordova Kameron Ghadiri Ariana Brown	Daniel Bruce Augustine Nerva Daniel Zeter McKenna Chapman George Martinez Jenna & Karin Sinkevitch Matthew J. Smith & Family Alejandro Carrasco
\$2-\$3:	Bryce Hill Dallas Salazar Mariah Britt Isaiah McReaken Seara Burton Erica Valdez	Rachel Udall Connor Cleveland Christian Patterson Isabell Mora Madison Conrad Katrina Civerelo	Kevin Patterson Casey Collier Emilia Ervin Keith Garcia Isaiah Almager
\$1-1.25:	Abbi Kaspar Tyler McLellan Wesley Price Rio Hogan Miriam Landaverde Danielle Crosley Carly Becker Kimberly Adamson Paige Moran Alvin Ha	Makayla Ramirez Bobby Rehren-Zepeda Leticia Nicolett Derek Griego Taylor Kelly Marcus Ferguson Toure Britt Rebeka Haynes Beth Kaestner	Lindsey Nieto Alex Parish Ernesto Gutierrez Caleb Ellington Etienne Louis Jennifer Griego Kendall Duran Paulette Chasing Hawk Katie Belt-McDonald

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MITCHELL MUSTANG

From the December Library Bookshelf, cont...

Several Area Businesses Contributed to our One For Books Program and **We All Thank** them for their support and generosity. If you see anyone from these businesses please tell them how much we appreciate their support of our students. They are:

\$100.00	Hume Veterinary Hospital	3601 Eubank Blvd.	291-9280
\$25 – 50	Apple Mountain Music	10301 Comanche Rd.	237-2048
	Jess' Economy Tire & Auto Repair	3701 Morris St.	294-6954
	Sandia Vision Clinic	3701 Eubank Blvd.	298-2020
\$20 - 24	Foster's Upholstery	10301 Comanche Rd .	294-1037
\$1 – 19	Ross Family Dental	10330 Montgomery Blvd.	293-7441

CiCi's Pizza donated enough pizza and drinks for all the children who donated \$ to our One For Books to attend a Pizza Party with Prizes Nov. 29, 06 during their lunch time. The party was given to show our appreciation for their CARING of their fellow students. Thank You CiCi's on Juan Tabo and Menaul.

If you missed this Book Fair, we will have another in the Spring. It will be held at the end of February beginning of March.

Teachers and Staff Wish List

As we approach Winter Break, teachers and staff members are finding that they are running low on certain supplies or that there are items they would like to use in their classrooms but that they can not afford. We have put together this Wish List in hopes that there will be parents who would like to contribute these items to our school. **Please be as generous as possible** and remember, even a box of pencils is a big help and much appreciated! If you have questions about any items, please contact the individual who requested it.

- Hand Sanitizer
- Ace Bandages (any size)
- Round Shot Bandages
- Socks, Underwear, Gloves (Boys and Girls)
- Sterile 4 x 4 Gauze Bandages

- Purell, Windex, Lysol
- Backpacks (new or gently used, neutral color)
- Pencils
- Tape recorder with a plug-in for a microphone
- Privacy Shields for Computers
- 25 - 8 1/2 x 11 chalkboards
- Gift Cards to office supply stores for Printer Cartridges
- Printer Cartridges for student use
- Professional Materials on Literacy (for tutoring & classroom models)
- Gift Cards to Learning Is Fun

Nurse's Office



Library
Office
School-wide
L. Kathrein
C. Snell
M. Baca
T. Spangler

S. Stearns
C. Robinson

Szwed

MITCHELL MUSTANG



Snow Watch



If our wet summer is any indication of what our winter will be like, we may have quite a bit of snow coming our way. It may be possible that APS will call for an Abbreviated Day should the weather prove to be dangerous for travel to and from school.

The Abbreviated Day schedule is a shortened school day that begins **two hours later** than the regular schedule but ends at the usual time. Should an Abbreviated Day be called, Mitchell Elementary students are required to report to school at 10:55 a.m. Their day will end at 3:40 p.m. This schedule holds true should the Abbreviated Day fall on a Wednesday. The City Parks and Recreation Program will not be available during the morning of an Abbreviated Day. It will return to its regular schedule in the afternoon. Breakfast will not be served on an Abbreviated Day; however, lunch will be available for our students.

The decision to call for an Abbreviated Day would be made by APS early in the morning and announced through the news media by 5:30 a.m. Stay tuned to your local TV and radio stations for the latest information.

Sometimes weather conditions worsen during the early morning and a decision is made to close the schools. School closings will be announced no later than 8:00 a.m.

On rare occasions, harsh weather conditions may develop that require that schools close after the school day has already begun. At those times, TV and radio stations will announce school closures. The Mitchell Staff will make every attempt to contact parents to alert them to the situation. It is at times like this that up-to-date emergency numbers prove to be invaluable resources. **(Take a minute to make sure the office has your correct contact information)**. The City Parks and Recreation After School Program will not be operating when schools are closed after the school day begins.

Help our children be safe and warm this winter. Make sure they wear coats and jackets. Misplaced coats, sweaters, jackets, gloves etc. can be found in our Lost and Found Box in the cafeteria.

Be warm and snug this winter,
Raquel Reedy

Groceries Earn \$\$\$ For Mitchell Elementary

All three grocery stores in our area have programs that allow you to donate a percentage of the money that you **already** spend on food to Mitchell Elementary. **Raley's Quality of Life** program allows you to go online to activate your card and designate Mitchell as your favorite school. Cards are available in the school's office or at Raley's Customer Service.

Albertson's Community Partners program links your Preferred Savings Card with the school of your choice and gives up to 4% of each purchase to your school. Forms are available at their Customer Service desk or sign up online at www.albertsons.com. Click on "In The Community" for the *Community Partners* link.

Smith's Earn & Learn Program links your Fresh Values Card with Mitchell. Sign up by calling 1-800-764-8897 to register Mitchell or e-mail your request to earnlearn@sfdc.com. Be sure to type in your Fresh Values card number and indicate city and state.

So PLEASE SIGN UP wherever you shop and know that you're helping Mitchell pay for after school programs, field trips, equipment, and many other items that contribute to our children's education.

pto.org, www.mitchellpto.org, www.mitchellpto.org, www.mitchellpto.org, www.mitchellpto.org

Mitchell Kids Corner



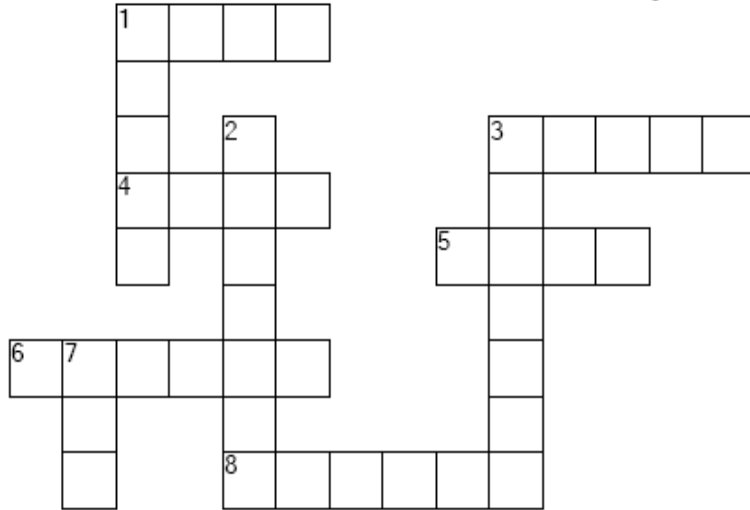
Winter Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1. Frozen precipitation that falls in flakes
3. Keeps your neck warm
4. Precipitation
5. Feeling no warmth
6. The coldest season
8. One of the four divisions of the year

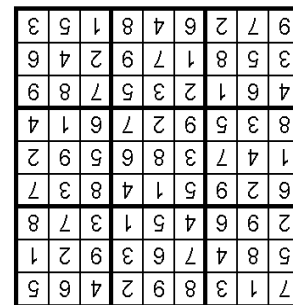
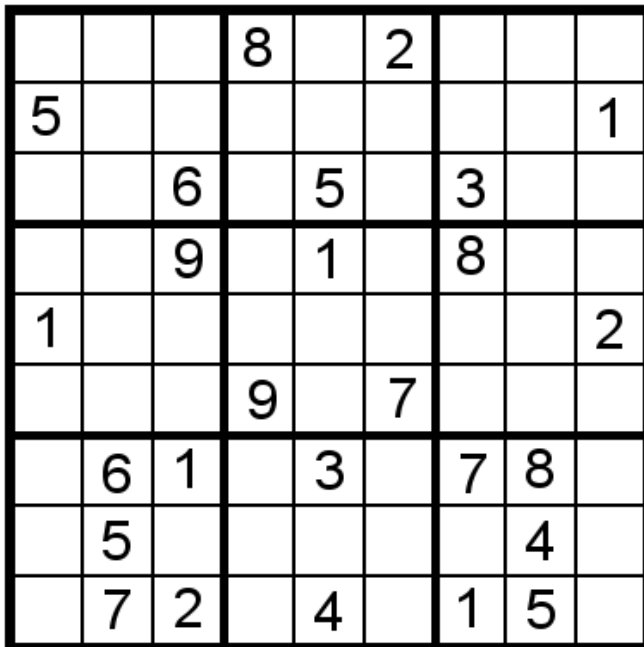
DOWN

1. A major disturbance of the atmosphere with wind, rain, snow, hail, or thunder and lightening.
2. Keeps your hands warm
3. Frosty
7. Water frozen solid



Season	Snow	Rain	Winter
Storm	Ice	Mittens	Snowman
Scarf	Cold		

Sudoku



Happy Holidays!