



Mitchell Mustang

www.mitchellpto.org

Volume 32 Issue 4

December 2007

From the Principal's Desk...

Important Dates

- Dec. 3: PTO Meeting, 6:30pm
- Dec. 8: Mitchell Craft Fair, 9am-4pm
- Dec. 24-Jan. 4: Winter Break
- Jan. 7: In-service, No classes

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 6% to 19% of respondents leaving the statement unanswered. Over four hundred surveys were distributed and 143 or 32.3% were returned. According to the APS Research, Development and Accountability Department, a return rate of over 30% makes for a valid survey. I have selected some of the statements that are the most telling about how parents feel concerning Mitchell.

Statement	% agree/ strongly agree	% disagree strongly disagree	don't know	left blank
1. My child is safe at school.	78.3%	2.8%	2.1%	16.8%
2. My child's teacher provides sufficient/appropriate information regarding his academic progress.	86.1%	4.9%	0.0%	9.1%
3. The teacher has high expectations and a variety of accountability measures for my child.	89.6%	2.8%	1.4%	6.3%
4. My child's teacher welcomes me in the classroom.....	81.9%	7.0%	2.8%	8.4%
5. My child has adequate choice of school-sponsored extracurricular activities.	67.2%	13.3%	6.3%	13.3%
6. The school offers adequate access to up-to-date computers and technology.	64.3%	5.6%	11.9%	18.2%



Peace on Earth

Our Instructional Council will review the survey and your comments closely and will use the survey information to address our strengths and challenges. We will continue to keep you up-to-date and informed about safety, academic achievement, and site development. If you have issues you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact the office to set up an appointment with me.

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving, filled with family, friends, and food. Please assist the staff and remind your children that we still have four weeks of school before Winter Break. It is important that we remain focused on schoolwork and learning even though we are all excited for the holidays and the long Winter Break.

Continued on next page...

Interested in
Mitchell PTO,
check us out
at :

www.mitchellpto.org

From the Principal's Desk, cont...

As you make those beginning of the year appointments with the doctor, the dentist, and the orthodontist, please keep in mind that the New Mexico Standards Based Assessment window is from February 25th to March 21st. During this time it is very important for students to arrive on time and be present the entire day for testing. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

We wish you and yours the warmest of holiday seasons.

Debbie Garrison
Principal



A special thank you to
Sportz Outdoors
for their generous donation to the
Mitchell Elementary School
Basketball Program.
We appreciate your support!

Yearbook Cover Winners

1st Place: Philip Spuhler Sandoval/Botz
2nd Place: Niki Hultquist Kuebler
3rd Place: Beka Haynes Sandoval/Botz

Congratulations to Philip, Niki, and Beka!
Thank you to all who submitted covers for
the yearbook. There were many great
entries.

1046 Pieces of Canned Food!

On Monday, November 19, 2007, the Mitchell Student Council collected their last can of food, which was number 1046! This was the most successful food drive in Mitchell's history! The council set a goal of 1000 cans and orchestrated a campaign to get the job done.

The students collected food for the Storehouse, in memory of Mac McCullom. Mac worked with the Student Council over the past several years to provide food for the hungry of Albuquerque. Mac was such a good example to the students, always trying to help those who needed it. He was always so proud of the efforts at Mitchell with our annual food drive. Mac would be most proud of our tremendous collection this year. Super work, Mitchell students!

**MITCHELL
TEAMS UP WITH**

**Albertsons
Community Partners**
Giving back for youth. One cart at a time.

**Pick up your card
today in the office.**

Utopia™

Therapeutic Massage and Body Treatments
" Gift Certificates Available "

Northeast corner of Menaul and Louisiana
Offering Signature massage, Steam therapy, Oxygen
sessions, massages for kids, teens, and more...

Call 505.977.5833
www.utopia-abq.com



Mitchell Elementary School
Craft Fair
Saturday, December 8th, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Free Admission

Join us in the Cafeteria for last minute holiday shopping.
You'll find unique, handmade items (not just the usual Craft show fare).

A few booths are still available, \$35., contact mitchellcraftfair@yahoo.com to reserve space.

Thank You Mitchell Families!

A big thank you goes out to all the Mitchell families who so generously donated clothing to help support the BCCPTA (Bernalillo County Councils of PTA's) Clothing Bank. We would also like to thank Dan Heavner, Manager of Albertson's on Juan Tabo for his generous donation of paper bags. Thank you Mrs. Gagliano for organizing the Clothing Drive and Mrs. Zeter for requesting the bags and delivering them to Student Council. Also thank you to the Student Council students and sponsors, Ms. Aragon and Ms. Strongin, who sponsored the clothing drive.

We delivered almost 100 bags of used clothing and shoes to the Clothing Bank! Your generosity was overwhelming. The volunteers at the Clothing Bank were very excited and appreciative when receiving your donations. They know that they can count on Mitchell families for your kind support. We are happy to accept clothing donations all year. Just send them in at any time and we will deliver your donations to the Clothing Bank. If you have any questions about the Clothing Bank, please call Ms. Glenn, Counselor, Mitchell Elementary, 299-1937.

Groceries Earn \$\$\$ For Mitchell

Two 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.

Albertson's Community Partners program has a card that you scan when buying groceries, linking your purchase price to Mitchell. Albertson's donates up to 4% of each purchase to our school. This is different than the Preferred Savings card that they previously used. The Community Partners cards are now available in our office.

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. PLEASE NOTE... Smith's purges their list of the preferred school linked with each Fresh Values Card each July. Just have the cashier scan your card and say, "Yes, Mitchell Elementary is my school of choice."

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.

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MITCHELL MUSTANG

From the December Library Bookshelf...

The Book Fair Blizzard was so much fun and raised quite a bit of funds to support our Library. Our Parent Volunteers help to make this Book Fair possible. They decorate, cashier, take down etc. Without them the Book Fair would not be possible. They are: **Jenny White, Jan Rehren, Bernadette Burr, Julie Grosso, Crystal Corfield, Paula Adams, Carla Irwin and Stacy Sturgess**. Thank you for all your support.

The ONE FOR BOOKS Program was able to raise \$373.65 to provide funds for 74 students unable to participate in the Book Fair due to financial difficulties.

Five businesses helped to make this happen and I would like to **THANK** them for their much needed generosity. **Please tell them how much we appreciate their support the next time you visit or call** their business. They are:

- **Cup O Joe at Eubank and Comanche 299-2528**
- **Dion's at Morris and Montgomery – provided a Pizza Party for students 293-7183**
- **Foster's Upholstery right next door to Mitchell on Comanche 294-1037**
- **Jess's Economy & Tire & Auto Repair at Morris and Comanche 294-6594**
- **Security Source 796-1111**

The students who helped by giving to their fellow students are:

The \$1-4 Dollar Club:

Casey Collier	Marcus Ferguson	Alexis Payne
Dale Chapman	McKenna Chapman	Bobby Rehren-Zepeda
Mercedes Estes	Caleb Ellington	Natalia Chavez
Leo Sedillo	Cameron Saunders	Rafael Maso
Aspen Hotchkiss	Sam Grosso	Jonathan Corfield
Taylor Kelly	Jordon Cisneros	Rio Hogan
Abby White	Jack White	Ashley Ray
Andrew Esquibel	Chloe Rigby	Blaizze
Rebecca Sedillo	Ahmed Saho	Lana Pack
Alyssa Adams	Lagaria Meadows	Emily Monochie

The \$5.00-9.00 Club:

Catherine Sturgess	Isaiah Macias	Jaylen Domina-Lovato
Paige Nielson	Daniel Bruce	Sabrina Rojo
Madison Conrad	Hunter North	Lucas Rose
Daniel Zeter		

The \$10.00 Club:

Jonah Hoffman

Some of our generous staff also donated and I realize they wish to remain anonymous but I still want to THANK all of you who helped with the ONE FOR BOOKS program. And Thank You to all the families who came to our Book Fair Events!



Mitchell Kids Corner

Winter Craft: Ice Candles

Kids, with parent's help, can use ice and wax to create a cool, lacy-looking candle that's a great centerpiece or gift.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Scissors
- Cylindrical cardboard container (salt or oatmeal)
- Paper towel
- Cooking oil
- Knife
- White tapered candle
- Large tin can
- 1 pound of paraffin wax
- Large saucepan
- Wooden skewer
- Crayon pieces
- Large spoon
- Crushed ice
- Bowl



Time needed: About 2 to 3 Hours

1. Have your child prepare a mold by cutting off the top of the cardboard container. Use a paper towel to coat the inside with cooking oil. With a knife, trim the bottom from the taper so the taper is the same height as the mold.
2. Meanwhile, fill the tin can with the wax. Then place it in a saucepan filled with 2 inches of water and set the pan over low heat. Use a wooden skewer to stir the melting wax. Mix in crayon pieces to get your desired candle color.
3. Pour 1/2 inch of wax into the prepared mold and immediately stick the taper into the center, wick end up. Hold the taper in place for a minute or two while the wax sets.
4. Spoon 2 inches of crushed ice around the taper, then cover the ice almost completely with melted wax. Add more ice, then more wax, alternating until the mold is filled.
5. Set the mold in a bowl for about an hour (it will leak water), letting the wax harden completely, then peel off the cardboard.

Taken from Family Fun, 2007. See familyfun.com for photos of the candles.



Happy Holidays!





WANTED "Girl Softball Players"

Both *NEW* and *EXPERIENCED*
For expanded softball program @
Roadrunner Little League

Ages needed: 5-16* with all-girl teams formed in each division!
(T-ball, Rookies, Minors, Majors, Juniors, Seniors)

* girls age as of December 31, 2007

When
Saturday, January 19
&
Saturday, January 26
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Cost
\$85 for 1st child
\$50 for each
additional child in
same family
(Baseball or Softball)



Boundaries
East of Eubank to
Mountains
North of Menaul
South of Academy

What to Bring*:

1. Proof of Residence - PNM Bill, Lease or Rental Agreement, Phone Bill, Cable Bill (Water Bills are not accepted)
2. Original State Issued Birth Certificate (Photocopies are not accepted)

*Printable Registration & Medical Forms are available on our website: www.RRLL.org. Bring completed forms with you if you'd like.

REGISTRATION UNLIMITED

ALL games played at Roadrunner Little League*

*Minimum 6 Teams per Division to play at RRLL

Refer or Bring a Friend* to Sign-up - get a treat card

*first time player to Roadrunner

Roadrunner Little League at 10700 Lagrima De Oro
Just North of Juan Tabo & Montgomery Intersection
QUESTIONS? Call 299-9702 or e-mail stucasa@hotmail.com

Come See Our New Softball Field!