



Mitchell Mustang

www.mitchellpto.org

Volume 32 Issue 5

January 2008

From the Principal's Desk...

Important Dates

- Jan. 14: PTO Meeting, 6:30 pm
- Jan. 17: Group Pictures
- Jan.21: Martin Luther King Day: No School

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that the first half of the school year is already behind us and all of our 1st graders are rapidly approaching 2nd grade. The second half of the school year will be very busy here at Mitchell. We will begin our new year with a staff in-service on January 7th. The morning will be dedicated to the district's new math curriculum - Everyday Math. Our teachers are leaders of the pack in this area, since most of them have already been teaching this program three to seven years. The afternoon will be devoted to reading strategies and how to increase comprehension skills for all students. The first week back we will also spend time aligning the standards and setting goals for the rest of the year.

We appreciate all of the love and support that has been shown to our staff through the PTO staff appreciation luncheon, as well as individual cards and gifts during the holiday season.

Mitchell Mustangs are away from the gate at a breakneck speed. I will keep you posted on our progress through the Spring 2008 semester. We will have several family activities this spring. Make sure you review the newsletter and visit the web site often so you can mark your calendars early for these fun family events.

Sincerely,
Debbie Garrison
Principal



EVERYDAY MATH GAMES ONLINE!

Students can now play educational math games at home over the internet.

We are thrilled to offer our students an extension of our math program. Every Mitchell student received a password and instructions on how to play leveled games at home. We encourage every student to "PLAY" these games. EDM games online will prove to be a huge support to our students and families. We believe practicing these games at home will strengthen our children's understanding of key math concepts.

If you are having trouble connecting, forget your password or need technical support, you can call Chris Snell or Susan Coopersmith at 299-1937.

Have Tons Of Family Fun By Playing EDM Games!!

Interested in
Mitchell PTO,
check us out
at :

www.mitchellpto.org

Alphabet Soup of A.P.S.



Have you ever wondered what all those acronyms mean? Here is a handy guide to “teacher talk”.

- **A2L: Assess2Learn** is a short cycle assessment. It is given to children in grades 1-5. First and second grade children take the math portion while children in grades 3-5 use the reading and math portion. The A2L is given three times a year.
- **AIP (Academic Improvement Plan)** This plan is used to spotlight a skill or skills that a student has not mastered.
- **AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress)** A yearly measurement of No Child Left Behind based on the school's performance on the SBA.
- **BIP (Behavior Intervention Plan)** This modification is used to improve behavior and promote student success.
- **CIP (Classroom Intervention Plan)** A classroom intervention plan is developed to promote success within the classroom curriculum.
- **DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills)** The DIBELS is a literacy assessment given to kindergarten children three times a year.
- **DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment)** The DRA is a short cycle assessment tool. The DRA is used by first and second grade teachers to measure reading success.
- **EDM (Everyday Math)** Everyday Math is our math curriculum used in grades k-5.
- **EPSS (Educational Plan For Student Success)** Our EPSS is our mission statement and goals for the year as well as strategies to meet these goals.
- **FBA (Functional Behavior Assessment)** An FBA is often done in conjunction with a BIP. The FBA is used to help the Mental Health Team understand a child's behavior.
- **IEP (Individual Education Plan)** An IEP is a written document that formulates clear goals for individual students who have not mastered grade level competencies or who are working above grade level and qualify for specialized enrichment. IEP's are reviewed at least once a year.
- **KDPR (Kindergarten Developmental Progress Report)** The KDPR is our standards based kindergarten trimester report card.
- **NCLB (No Child Left Behind)**
- **SBA (Standard Based Assessment)** The SBA is an assessment designed specifically for NM based on the standards.
- **SBPR (Standard Based Progress Report)** The SBPR is our student reporting tool. (report card grades 1-5)
- **SAT (Student Assistant Team)** This committee helps support teachers and families by discussing strategies and modifications for struggling students.

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From the January Library Bookshelf:

The students are learning about: the Dewey Decimal System, Internet Use and Safety, and Using the Different Areas of the Library for Research. Younger children are working on caring for books, the difference between fiction and non-fiction, what an author does and what an illustrator does, title of a book, and parts of the library.

The newest Fundraiser for the Library is the Scholastic Reading Jamboree. It's a program that costs the families nothing and the school gets money. It works like this:

- The children bring home a booklet that asks for only 10 names and addresses for people who "**may**" want to purchase magazines.
- **The names and addresses are Not given out to anyone.**
- The booklets then come back and are sent to Scholastic.
- For every booklet returned, \$3 is given to the school.
- The booklet postcards are then sent to the friends/neighbors/relatives that you used to get addresses.
- They may then throw out the little postcards or order/renew magazines.
- There is no pressure, no mailing lists.
- The children who participate receive a free book.

Look for the Reading Jamboree booklets and letter coming home soon.

Our next exciting Book Fair is coming in February. The Spring Theme is "**Take A Road Trip to Reading**" to encourage Summer Reading for your children! Remember: **reading is a skill that must always be practiced**, especially during the elementary years! Make sure your child has plenty to read over the summer months. And.....books make great rewards and gifts. Our guest this time is The Big Red Dog named **Clifford**.

Lastly, as we return from our break please remind your children to keep their Library Books in their backpacks unless they are reading them.

Thank you **all** for your support of our Library!

Boys Basketball Schedule*

1/09/08	2:45 pm	Armijo	@ Armijo	2/27/08	2:45 pm	Bel Air	@ Bel Air
1/16/08	3:00 pm	Temple	Home	3/05/08	2:45 pm	Armijo	@ Armijo
1/23/089	2:45 pm	Barelas	Home	3/12/08	2:45 pm	Temple	@ Temple
1/30/08	2:45 pm	Mesa Verde	Home	3/19/08	2:45 pm	Barelas	@ Barelas
2/06/08	2:45 pm	Eugene Field	Home				
2/13/08	2:45 pm	Calvary	Home				
2/20/08	2:45 pm	Gov. Bent	Home				

Go Mustangs!!



- Schedule is tentative as to Home or Away games for January and February. Please check with the office.

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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!