



# Mitchell Mustang

May 2008

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Albuquerque, NM 87111  
(505) 299-1937  
www.aps.edu/aps/mitchell  
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## Important Dates

- May 1: Fine Arts/ Dessert Night
- May 5: PTO Meeting, 6:30pm
- May 12-16: Play Days (see below)
- May 22: Last Day of School



## Play Days

1st & 2nd Grade: May 12

3rd & 4th Grade: May 13

Kindergarten: May 14

5th Grade: May 16

Be sure to wear sunscreen and a hat and bring a water bottle to school.

## Mitchell Mustang

Mitchell Mustang is sponsored by the Mitchell PTO.

For more info go to: [www.mitchellpto.org](http://www.mitchellpto.org)

## From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Parents,

We have about three weeks left of school, and we ask for your help in keeping our students on task. Even though vacation is just around the corner, we still have some important learning left to do! We often have parents ask how they can help their students stay involved in learning over the summer months. There are a number of activities available, and many of them are free or low-cost. The New Mexico Kids! Family Magazine is an excellent resource, and can be found at local grocery stores and restaurants. The local Library has many free programs; their Summer Reading Club Kick-off Party will be held Saturday, May 31st, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM at four local libraries. You can find more information at [www.cabq.olv/library/src2.html](http://www.cabq.olv/library/src2.html). Most importantly, don't forget to just spend time reading and writing with your children this summer. Let them take the lead in the topics they wish to explore with you. Take them to the library, buy them notebooks to record their thoughts, and encourage them to read, read, read.

Thank you to our dedicated and loving staff for helping our children learn, grow, and mature not only in academics but also as good citizens. Thank you to our PTO for working so hard to make our school the best elementary school in Albuquerque. And finally, I want to thank each and every family for helping to make this year such a success for our children.

Please be sure to keep an eye on our new marquee (*Thanks, PTO!*) and the Mitchell website ([www.aps.edu/aps/mitchell/index.html](http://www.aps.edu/aps/mitchell/index.html)) for important dates and other information regarding next school year.

For those families leaving Mitchell, good luck in your future endeavors. For those who will be returning, I look forward to seeing your children this fall, full of energy and ready for a brand new school year. I hope you have a relaxing summer.

Debbie Garrison  
Principal

## School Meal Balances Due

Monies owed for school meals must be paid before the end of the year. Negative Balances will not be removed and, unless paid, will be carried forward to the next school year. For your child's balance, check with your school cafeteria manager or at [myLunchMoney.com](http://myLunchMoney.com). For questions call 345-5661 ext. 37019 or ext. 37020

## Mitchell Community Day

Mitchell's second annual Community Day was a success! Thanks to all of the staff, students, parents, and community members who came to enjoy this wonderful day. We made our campus beautiful all while enjoying music and having fun.

This day would not be possible without the support of our local businesses. So the next time you visit one of the businesses listed below, please thank them for their generous support!

### A Big Thanks To:

Lowe's on Juan Tabo and Candelaria

Cup o' Joe on Eubank and Comanche

Justin Cheney with AFD

Andy Drexler with APD

Leslie Foust with Albuquerque Ambulance

Dorine Conley with NM Department of Health

Farmer's Market

Albertson's

And our very own PTO!



We look forward to seeing you all again at next year's  
Mitchell Community Day!

**REDUCE, RECYCLE, REUSE**

**GEAR SWAP  
OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT SWAP**

**SUNDAY, MAY 18TH  
10AM TO 4PM**

@ NM Wilderness Alliance's  
ABQ Office

**142 Truman NE  
(505) 843-8696**

Visit [www.nmwild.org](http://www.nmwild.org) for more info

cup o'  
**Joe**  
Great Coffee, Real People™

Your Community

**Coffee House And Café**

**3732 Eubank Blvd NE**

(Just North of Comanche on the East  
side in *San Marcos Center*)

**299-2528**

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO  
LOWE'S ON JUAN TABO FOR ALL  
YOUR HELP WITH OUR TOOLBOX  
FOR EDUCATION GRANT!**

WELCOME BACK SPRING  
**LOWE'S**  
Let's Build Something Together™

## From the PTO President...

Wow—is this year over already? Where did it go? Our kids have made it through another year and have grown in the process. They have made new friends and learned new things. I wish they could stay young forever. I want to personally thank each of you for your contributions to our wonderful school. Together with your help, we have had a memorable year and provided some much-needed assistance to our school.

I will be stepping down this year as President of the PTO—but am leaving you in the very capable hands of Paula Adams. The current Mitchell PTO Board and the future PTO Board are made up of a group of wonderfully talented women who are dedicated to making our school a better place for our kids. They have some great ideas in store for next year—so be on the lookout!

Thank you once again and have an AWESOME summer!

Eddie Guess  
PTO President

## Wean the Screen!



April 21-27 was TV-Turnoff Week. This was a great time to start new habits and cut down on daily screen time and replace it with active time. Let's try to keep it up! The average kid gets up to 6 hours of screen time every day! That is time sitting in front of a TV, computer, playing video games, or text messaging instead of being active. The increase in sedentary behaviors among kids is causing health problems that only adults used to get. Cutting down on screen time can free up time for the family to be active together. Try these ideas:

Set a limit of no more than 2 hours of screen time each day - the recommendation from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Find out how much time you and your family spend in front of a screen by visiting [www.wecan.nhlbi.nih.gov](http://www.wecan.nhlbi.nih.gov) for the Screen Time Log and ideas to get moving.

Choose one evening a week that will be "TV free" and plan a walk or another activity that gets the family moving.

Cut down on the amount of screen time by 30-60 minutes each day until you reach your goal.

Encourage kids to get up and move during commercial breaks. Have a contest; see who can do the most jumping jacks during commercials.

## From the May Library Bookshelf:

**Thank you to all students and parents who supported our library this year.** The lessons learned by the children were fun to prepare and teach.

The students are learning how to:

- Be Responsible for items borrowed from any library
- How to organize time in order to remember their library day
- How to show Respect for the library and others using a library
- How to find fiction and non-fiction areas of any library
- How to use different research areas of the library for a report
- What and How the Dewey Decimal System works
- And much more

-----Remember, the *notices* sent home when a book is not returned on their library day is a Reminder to return the book or item as soon as possible or to bring it in for renewal.

-----Learning to make returning homework and books into a Habit is important for the success of all students, now and in the future.

-----Students can renew or exchange their books **at first recess M-F.**

-----If a student loses or damages a book they must pay for the book so it can be replaced. The price of the book is rounded up to the nearest dollar so as to pay for cataloging etc. that each book must experience before being placed on a shelf for check out.

-----If a book is found any time after it has been paid for and returned to the library, a refund will be given. The office will put the refund in the teachers' box with a note for the student. It may take time so ask your child to feel free to **ask me about the refund** whenever they see me.

**We are always looking for books in good condition to be donated to our library.** If during the summer you clean out your bookcases and wish to find a new home for them please remember Mitchell Elementary Library. Your student's name will be placed on a bookplate in the front of the book so put a note with the donation stating the name you want on the bookplate.

**Good Luck to all our fifth grade students moving on to Middle School.** You will be missed.

## E-Mail School Announcements

We are compiling a list of parents who would like to receive e-mails from Mitchell of school notices, special announcements, and the Mitchell Mustang newsletter. If you would like to sign up, please fill out this form and drop it off at the school office. You can also sign up on the PTO website at: [www.mitchellpto.org](http://www.mitchellpto.org).

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_



### Campbell's Soup Labels and Box Tops

Please continue to save all of your Campbell's Soup Labels For Education and Box Tops for Education during the summer! Remember that we need the UPC symbol on the soup labels (not the whole label) in order to get any money for them. Also, it would be very helpful to have the Box Tops cut out neatly and to make sure that the expiration dates have not passed. Be sure to put your child's name and teacher on the back before you hand them in this fall.



### Outdoor Adventure Club

The OAC (Outdoor Adventure Club) is almost done for the year and what fun we have all had! We've learned about bike safety and have enjoyed rides around the community. In hiking/fishing we have ventured about and learned how to tie a fly. We've climbed inside and outside while learning fun games and climbing techniques.

This club is open to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades and will be offered next year. Look for the registration form in March and sign up quickly because club size is limited!

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## MITCHELL BAND SURVEY

Did you play in the school band? Would you like your child to have the opportunity to play in a school band? We would like to see a band program at Mitchell and are currently searching for a director. Please complete the following survey so that we can see if there is enough interest to pursue the program.



If Mitchell were to have a school band, would you be able to: (circle Yes or No)

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Come before school?                    | Yes or No |
| 2. Pay a fee? (possibly \$100/semester)   | Yes or No |
| 3. Rent an instrument? (about \$20/month) | Yes or No |



\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, my child would like to be in the school band and here is my contact info:

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name / Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

If you have questions or concerns please contact Julia Hoffman [jkch@comcast.net](mailto:jkch@comcast.net) or Anne Zeter 237-1869, [zeters@comcast.net](mailto:zeters@comcast.net).