



THE BLACK BEAR NEWS

www.des.deerfield.ma.us

413.665.1131

February 12, 2010

Deerfield Elementary School promotes the joys of life-long learning for everyone.

Important Dates



February

15-19: Winter Recess NO SCHOOL

22: PTA Board Meeting

25: Family Literacy Night for grades K,1,2 (6:00—7:30PM)

27: Pancake Breakfast-DES Café, 8am-10am, \$5.00, includes pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee. (Snow date is Sat., Mar. 6th).

March

2: Read Across America: 9:00-9:30am, in all classrooms, celebrating Dr. Seuss!

9: Writing Fair: 5-8pm DES Cafeteria

16: DES Annual Family Night, 6:00-8:00pm

16: Art Fair Event, along with Family Night

22: MCAS Testing begins (March 22 through April 12).



Deerfield Elementary 6th Graders
Cordially Invite Friends & Family
of Deerfield Elementary School to

Our

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, February 27, 2010

(Snow Date,

8 AM—10 AM, DES Cafe

\$5.00 for a breakfast serving.

Come & join your friends & family
for a Pancake Breakfast!!

Includes: Pancakes, sausage, juice &
Coffee.

A Note from the Principal ~Kevin Kelly

Dear Families,

• As we close upon day 100, I would like to wish all our students, faculty, staff and families an enjoyable and safe February vacation! This time of year usually finds us at the peak of the flu season. I am happy to announce that the majority of our school is presently in good health!

Writing Fair:

March 9th: (entries are due Friday, Feb. 12th)

Daylight Savings:

March 14th! (Remember Spring-Ahead for your clocks).

Our Annual Family Night:

• March 16th: (6:00 to 8:00PM) Family Night allows students to showcase their classrooms and share their wonderful work with family members. The evening will come to a close with our Strings, Chorus and Band members performing in the café'.

MCAS TESTING:

Grades 3,4,5,6 will begin the ELA MCAS testing from March 22nd through April 12th.

• *As we honor Presidents Day and Black History Month, lets take the time to remember and share with our children that our great leaders were schooled in using their language skills to communicate, heal and solve issues. Lessons that hopefully will be passed on to the next generation!*

Attention Back Parking Lot!

I want to thank all our families for your patience and understanding pertaining to the back lot safety concerns. Our number 1 priority is your children's safety. With no supervision of traffic movement and two near misses, closing the lot was the appropriate decision. A letter from Chief Woz was sent home earlier this month and is included in this Newsletter as well.

Art Fair Event



The PTA is hosting an Original Works Art Fair during Family Night. This program allows you to have your child's very own artwork reproduced onto a selection of quality products (ranging in price from \$6 for recipe cards up to \$45 for a soap and lotion dispenser set). Viewing begins @ 5:30 p.m. and will be open throughout the evening in the gymnasium with a representative available to answer questions and samples for viewing. Order forms will be available that night and will also be sent home after Family Night. Mrs. Ryan will also have recorded CD's for sale of the students singing various songs with their grade. Each CD will cost \$10.00. We appreciate your continued support of the PTA and for the Arts and look forward to seeing you all on March 16th!

SCHOOL CLOSINGS & DELAYS

As you know, we have the AlertNow System in place to inform families and staff of school closing and delays due to weather conditions. We advise that in addition to AlertNow you also have a back-up system. The television station, WWLP, Channel 22, posts school closings as early as 6:00 am. In addition, radio station WHAI (98.3FM) is one of many stations that also informs of school closings & delays.

Deerfield Arts Partnership Writing Fair

The writing fair will take place on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 in the DES Cafeteria from 5:00 pm until 8:00pm. Questions? Call Julie Cavacco @ 665-3318 or Darlene Johansmeyer @ Deerfield Elementary school. Submissions can be made to the school office or to the teacher.

Deadline for Submissions is: Fri., Feb.12 th

NOTIFYING SCHOOL OF DISMISSAL CHANGES

It is very important that your child's teacher, as **well as the office staff** are aware of any changes as to how your child is getting home and with whom. We need to know **in writing** as soon as possible; please try to keep calls during the day to a minimum. **If you must call, please call early in the day. This will avoid any confusion during dismissal time.**

Please send a note if:

- Your child normally takes a bus home but you or someone else is picking him/her up, the student would then be classified as a "walker".
- Your child is getting off the bus at a different location (include name of friend or relative).
- Your child is being dismissed early.
- Your child will not be attending the after-school program as previously scheduled.

When writing a note, please remember to include the date, full name of the teacher and the last name of the student. Thank you for taking the time to make sure all notes are clear and informative.

*Don't forget...if any of your contact information has changed, please request a **Change of Information Form** from the office.



BRAIN HEALTH

Dr. Daniel Amen, a nationally recognized Neuroscientist suggests we honor, protect and cherish the most important organ in the human body...your Brain!!

10 Great Tips for a Healthy Brain

-We'll forward 10 new tips in future Newsletters

Brain Dos:

- Wear a helmet in high risk situations.
- Drink lots of water.
- Eat healthy.
- Take ginkgo biloba and Vitamin E everyday.
- Think positive, healthy thoughts.
- Everyday, focus on the things you are grateful for in your life.
- Watch the Disney movie, Pollyanna.
- Spend time with positive, uplifting people.
- Work on your people skills to become more connected to enhance limbic bonds.
- Build a library of wonderful experiences.

www.amenclinics.com

From the Health Office

Lis Laurent, R.N.
(413) 665-3740

**A few friendly reminders
from the Health Office...**

If your child has sustained an injury or has an illness which prevents him/her from participating in any school activity (for example, recess or gym) please inform the health office in writing. If you have a Doctor's note, please send in a copy.

If you plan to keep your child home due to illness, please call the health office (665-3740) or the main office (665-1131) by 9:00 AM to let us know.

Please encourage fluids this time of year- chapped lips and dry skin are indications that your body is not well hydrated. Be a good role model for others.