

# Dodgeville Elementary School Newsletter

## December 2023

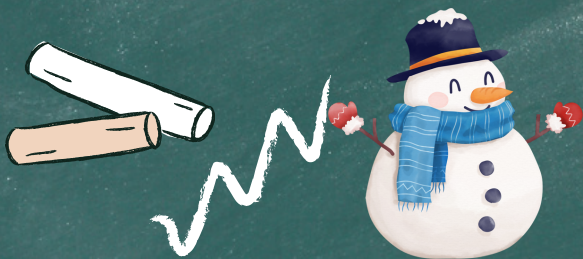
DES News - From Mrs. Zizis



Greetings DES Families! In this edition of our DES Newsletter you will find some highlights from the 4th grade team, our library, and messages from Mrs. Brewer (our School Counselor) and Mr. Alleman (our Math Specialist).

I'd like to share one of the learning activities our staff have been participating in during Professional Development Mondays. Each Monday, our staff engages in learning and planning related to Professional Learning Communities for a portion of the day. Our Guiding Coalition (team of teacher leaders) have guided our staff through a process to create a school Vision Statement during this time. Vision Statements provide direction for what we strive for daily and futuristically as we continue to learn and grow together. I'm very proud of the work the staff has done to create this vision.

**Dodgeville Elementary School Vision:** At DES, we provide a safe and happy school community where everyone feels included, valued, and excited to learn. We collaborate to support all students' individual needs, ensuring they thrive in their life-long educational journeys.



## Grade Level Highlight - 4th Grade

Fourth graders used their creativity building castles this month, while learning about the Middle Ages.





## What's happening in Library?

All DES students come to the DES Library one time during our 5-day cycle. Besides checking out library books to borrow, our students have been busy learning about authors, genres, and library resources.

- 4th graders are currently writing a book review and will be videotaping using WeVideo.
- 3rd graders are sampling different genres of books (Fantasy, Historical Fiction, Science Fiction, etc).
- 2nd graders have just completed an author study of Corey R. Tabor.
- 1st graders are learning how to borrow digital "Read Along with Me" books in the Sora App.
- Kindergarten students are completing an author study of Peter Brown.
- ELP and Early Childhood students are listening to read alouds featuring the letter of the week.

Mrs. Nagel (DES Library Media Specialist)  
Mrs. Olson (DES Library Assistant)



## Counselor Corner

This month in Guidance ELP-1st grade students have been learning a variety of self regulation strategies. Students had the opportunity to practice different breathing and movement strategies to use when they have a big feeling. The goal of this lesson was to have students identify 2 strategies that they enjoyed and that they thought would be helpful to them. Our 3rd and 4th grade students talked about friendships in Guidance this month. They identified different characteristics that were important to them in a friendship and how to respond to challenging situations.

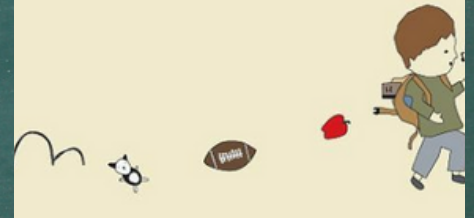
Mindful Moment: 5 Finger Breathing

- 1.) Place one hand out in front of you, fingers stretched out wide
- 2.) Trace your hand starting with your thumb
- 3.) Breath in while you trace up, breath out while you trace down

Quote:

"Friends are the people who make you smile brighter, laugh louder, and live better." - Unknown

you don't have  
to be perfect  
to be amazing.



Read More On

[www.dodgevilleschools.org](http://www.dodgevilleschools.org)



## A Note From our math specialist....

**Greg Alleman**  
**Math Specialist**  
(608)935-3307 ext. 2075  
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Scan this for some more  
**At-Home Learning in  
Math resources**

As an educator specializing in math, I often hear from parents, “I’m not sure how to help my child with this math. That is not how I would do it.” Or even, “I haven’t done this in years! I don’t remember how to do this.” Let me assure you to not worry about this!

First of all, it is so awesome that you are engaging with your child with their math learning. That is huge. Math conversations are one of the best ways to help students develop their thinking into more sophisticated ways. For example, solving  $7 + 8$ , we would want a student who is counting by 1’s (“8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15”) to develop an efficient strategy such as making a 10 (“I can take 2 from the 7 to make a 10 with 8 and have 5 left. I know that 10 and 5 make 15, so  $7 + 8 = 15$ ”).

Secondly, don’t worry about not knowing the math or the way your child is learning it. That is for them to know! Ask questions and try to understand how they see the math. Guide them toward understanding, but let them own that thinking! If you know of another way to solve a problem they are working on, I suggest a three step process: 1) Let them tell and/or show you their way. 2) Show and explain your way. 3) Find how your child and your solutions are similar and connected.

Please reach out with any questions you might have about how you can support your child’s math learning at home. Remember this: Math understanding is something that is caught, not taught. Let them grapple with their understanding of a concept, not just be told how it works. Enjoy your math conversations with your child!

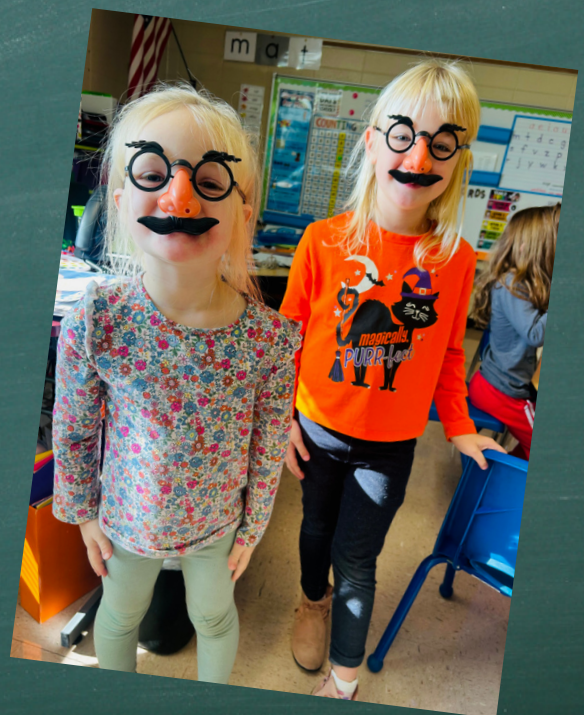
## Important Dates



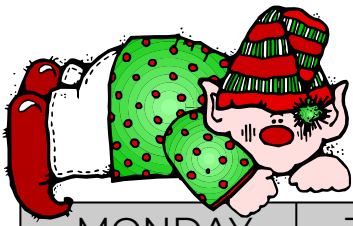
**12/9 - No School PD Day**



**12/22-1/1 Holiday Break**







# December



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1. Cheeseburger French Fries Sliced Tomatoes Pineapple WG Bun
4. Pizza Hut Pepperoni Pizza Seasoned Peas Romaine Pears Sidekick	5. Spaghetti Romaine Salad Cucumbers Applesauce WG Breadsticks	6. Grilled Cheese Tomato soup Celery Strawberries Crackers	7. Chicken Patty Mashed Potatoes Sweet Corn Sliced Tomatoes Peaches WG Bun	8. Orange Chicken Rice Pilaf Steamed Broccoli Mandarin Orange Fortune Cookie WG Dinner Roll
11. Staff PD Dodger Care Headstart	12. *New Meal* Meatballs in Beef gravy Rice Baby carrots Green beans Peaches Dinner roll	13. Walking tacos Wedge Fries Fiesta beans Lettuce Diced tomatoes Pears Tortilla chips	14. Mozzarella Dippers DHS: Bosco sticks Tater Tots Marinara Sauce Raw Vegetables Applesauce	15.*Christmas Dinner Chicken Gravy Mashed Potatoes Sweet Corn Cranberry Sauce Mixed Fruit Christmas Cookie WG Dinner Roll
18. Pizza Hut Sausage Pizza Seasoned Carrots Romaine Salad Strawberry cups Frozen Juice Cup	19. Cheese Omelet French Toast Sticks Hash Browns Applesauce Juice	13. Chicken nuggets Mashed Potatoes Sweet Corn Peaches WG Roll	21. Sack Lunch Turkey & Ham Sandwich Chips Carrots String Cheese Apples Treat	22. NO SCHOOL WINTER BREAK
25.	26.	27. NO SCHOOL	28.	29.
		WINTER BREAK		

2nd Entrée Choice: Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich  
 Menu subject to change without notice  
 Choice of Milk: 1% White, Fat Free Chocolate, Skim  
 This institution is an equal opportunity provider.