



Delaware Community School

City School District of Albany

Volume 3, Issue 3

Winter 2012

Delaware Community friends and families,

As we enter the second half of the school year, we continue to drill down via our core instruction, the five pillars of literacy (phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension). We strongly believe that a healthy core is the foundation for all development of literacy for our children.

In addition to this solid 90 minute core instruction, we are once again building RtI blocks (30 minutes) into our daily schedule. You child will notice a major difference in this second rendition of RtI; we are focusing our grouping on specific skill deficits based on student need as directly aligned with the five pillars of literacy illustrated in the first paragraph. Students that are on or above grade level expectations will be using leveled readers as well as cultivating their writing stamina and skill with their home room teacher.

The New York State Assessments for grades 3-5 in ELA and Math are scheduled to take place on April 17th-19th (ELA) and April 25th-27 (Math). Students will be expected to read more passages and express their knowledge via short as well as extended response writing. Please talk to your child about the tests and encourage them to start a journal at home as well as work on their reading stamina.

I am asking all students to write a persuasive essay to me, depicting a literary character of their choice that I will dress-up as for Literacy Week (March 19th). Please encourage your child to work on this essay over our February break.

As always, thank you for your continued support in our school.

Thomas J. Giglio
Principal
Delaware Community School
Home of the Dual Language Program

Congratulations to Leah Gonzalez is a great speller in two languages!

A fourth-grader in the bilingual Dual-Language Program, she is *el campeón de deletreo* -- the spelling champ -- in the City School District of Albany

**What's Inside the
Winter 2012
Newsletter**

- ✓ Giglio's Journal
- ✓ In the Classroom
- ✓ Nurse's News
- ✓ Ask the Reading Teachers
- ✓ Around DCS
- ✓ Upcoming Events
- ✓ March Calendar






Giglio's Journal

Familias y Amigos de la Escuela "Delaware Community",

Según comenzamos la segunda mitad del año escolar, seguimos trabajando, a través de nuestro plan de instrucción, con los cinco pilares de la alfabetización (conciencia fonológica, fonética, vocabulario, fluidez y comprensión). Creemos firmemente que un plan de instrucción saludable es la base para todo el desarrollo de la alfabetización de nuestros niños/as.

Además de este plan de instrucción sólido de 90 minutos, una vez más estamos construyendo bloques de RtI (30 minutos) en nuestra programación diaria. Su niño/a notará una diferencia importante en esta segunda implementación de RtI; estamos enfocando nuestra agrupación en déficits de destrezas específicas, según la necesidad del estudiante, el cual está alineado directamente con los cinco pilares de la alfabetización mencionados en el primer párrafo. Los estudiantes que están en o por encima de las expectativas de nivel de su grado estarán usando libros a su nivel de lectura así como cultivarán resistencia en su escritura y destreza con su maestro/a en el salón de clases.




Las evaluaciones del estado de Nueva York para los grados 3-5 en ELA y matemáticas están programados para el 17-19 de abril (ELA) y el 25-27 de abril (matemáticas). Se espera que se les pida a los estudiantes que lean más cuentos y que expresen sus conocimientos a través de la escritura por medio de respuestas cortas y extendidas. Por favor, hable con su hijo/a acerca de las pruebas y ánimelo/a a iniciar un diario en el hogar, así como el trabajar en su resistencia para leer por mucho tiempo.

Estoy pidiendo a todos los estudiantes a que me escriban un ensayo persuasivo, representando un personaje literario de su elección, para disfrazarme durante la semana de alfabetización (19 de marzo). Por favor, anime a su hijo/a a trabajar en este ensayo durante nuestro receso en febrero.

Como siempre, gracias por su continuo apoyo a nuestra escuela.

Thomas J. Giglio
Principal
Escuela "Delaware Community"
Casa del Programa Bilingüe



In the Classroom

Fourth Grade

Mrs. Short

We have been very busy in our 4th grade class. We started our Science Unit-Living Things, this month. We have been learning about animal and plant cells. Students wrote compare and contrast paragraphs about the different types of plant cells. We have also been working very hard on our persuasive writing this month in preparation for our Social Studies projects that we are working on with our St. Rose Buddies. On November 30th we presented our final projects with our St. Rose Buddies. On December 7th our class went to St. Rose to visit our Buddies at their school. On December 23rd we had a class lunch celebrating the holiday season. Look for more information about this coming soon!

Fifth Grade

Ms. Hans and Ms. Scharf's Classes Celebrate Writing!

The writers in Ms. Hans and Ms. Scharf's 5th grade writing class have been working hard as essayists. Writers collected ideas on things they feel strongly about or things that matter to them. Then, writers collected thinking to support these ideas. Writers worked hard to choose one thesis idea to turn into an essay. Using essay structure with some sophisticated craft moves [such as voic/talking to the reader] these writers finally published their Personal Essays! Families came in to enjoy the gallery walk of writing, jotting down compliments as they dove into the world of Personal Essays. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing you at our next writing celebration!



Nurse's News

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Our school year is going by all too quickly. Before we know it Spring will be here. Just a few reminders for this year and to help with information needed in the health office for next year. If your child/ren is new to our school he/she must have a physical by his/her own physician. Also if your child/ren is in Pre-K, K, 2nd or 4th grade, we also need a physical for this year. Immunizations must be up to date for all grade levels. If you have any questions regarding this please call me at 475-6755.

Flu season is not over yet! Please be sure you have received your flu vaccine for this year. Check with your physician and your child/ren's physician regarding this. Important things to remember about infection control are as follows:

COVER YOUR COUGH (not with your hands - hands carry germs and contaminate whatever you touch). Cough into your shoulder or bend of your elbow.

WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN, especially after using the bathroom, before eating, or after playing outside.

DO NOT SHARE eating utensils, toothbrushes, any personal items, cups, etc.

IF YOU ARE SICK - STAY HOME. If you have a fever 100 degrees or above please keep your child/ren home.

Children must be fever free for 24 hours without the aid of medication such as Tylenol, Motrin before he/she may return to school. Please be aware we have had several sore throats recently as well. If the sore throat does not subside please be sure to contact the physician in case your child/ren require medication. Be sure your child/ren are well hydrated. The building air can be dry, so please be sure your child/ren have drinks for school. Nosebleeds can also be brought on by air that is dry and not moist. If you child/ren are susceptible to **NOSEBLEEDS** please check with your child/ren's physician about how to keep your child/ren's nares moist.

School and playground safety are very important. Please remind your child/ren to **BE SURE TO WALK CAREFULLY, IF RUNNING IN GYM - RUN CAREFULLY, BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS.** If your child/ren has shoes with shoelaces make sure to remind your child/ren to keep shoes tied at all times to prevent falls.

One last item, if your child/ren has asthma please let us know. It is very important a rescue inhaler is kept in the health office for emergencies. You must have a written order from the doctor, parent/ guardian written permission and the medication must be in a proper container (box) with the child/ren's name on it as well as pharmacy directions.

Let's continue to keep our school safe and healthy. Thanks for all your support.

Linda Johnson, RN, School Nurse



Nurse's News

Estimados Padres/Apoderados,

Nuestro año escolar esta avanzando demasiado rápido. La primavera estará aquí antes de que nos demos cuenta. Tengo unos pocos recordatorios para este año y para ayudar con la información que se necesita en la oficina de salud para el próximo año. Si su(s) niño(s)/a(s) es/son nuevo(s) en nuestra escuela, debe tener un examen físico completado por su propio médico. Si su(s) niño(s)/a(s) está(n) en Pre-K, K, segundo o cuarto grado, también necesitamos un examen físico para este año. Las vacunas deben estar al día para todos los niveles de grado. Si tienes alguna duda al respecto por favor llámeme al 475-6755.

¡La temporada de gripe no se ha terminado todavía! Por favor, asegúrese de que han recibido la vacuna contra la gripe para este año. Consulte con su medico y el médico de su(s) niño(s)/ren al respecto. Las siguientes son cosas importantes para recordar sobre control de la infección:

CUBRIR su tos (no con las manos – las manos llevan gérmenes y contaminan todo lo que toca). Tosa en su hombro o plegado de su codo. LAVE sus manos frecuentemente, especialmente después de usar el baño, antes de comer, o después de jugar fuera.

NO comparta comida, utensilios, cepillos de dientes, elementos personales, tazas, etc.

SI ESTÁ ENFERMO - QUÉDESE EN LA CASA. Si tiene una fiebre de 100 grados o mas mantenga a su niño(s)/a(s) en el hogar.

Los niños deben estar sin fiebre durante 24 horas sin la ayuda de medicamentos tales como Tylenol, Motrin antes de que pueda volver a la escuela. Tenga en cuenta que hemos tenido recientemente varios casos de dolores de garganta. Si el dolor de garganta permanece, asegúrese de ponerse en contacto con el médico en caso de que su(s) niño(s)/a(s) requieren medicamentos. Asegúrese de que su(s) niño(s)/a(s) están bien hidratado(s). El aire del edificio puede ser seco, así que por favor, asegúrese de que su(s) niño(s)/a(s) tienen bebidas para la escuela. Hemorragias nasales también pueden ser provocadas por aire seco y no húmedo. Si su (s) niño(s)/a(s) son susceptible(s) a hemorragias nasales consulte con el médico de su(s) niño(s)/a(s) acerca de cómo mantener húmedo las fosas nasales de su(s) niño(s)/a(s).

La seguridad en la escuela y en el patio de recreo es muy importante. Por favor recuérdle a su(s) niño(s)/a(s) que esté(n) seguro de caminar con cuidado, si está corriendo en el gimnasio – que corra cuidadosamente, y que esté(n) consciente de sus alrededores. Si su(s) niño(s)/a(s) tiene(n) zapatos con cordones, asegúrese de recordarle a su(s) niño(s)/a(s) que mantenga los zapatos atados en todo momento para evitar que se caiga.

Un último, si su(s) niño(s)/a(s) tiene(n) asma, háganoslo saber. Es muy importante que se mantenga un inhalador de rescate en la oficina de salud para situaciones de emergencia. Debe tener una orden por escrito del médico, un permiso por escrito del padre/apoderado y la medicina debe estar en un envase adecuado (caja) con el nombre de los/las niño(s)/a(s) así como las direcciones de la farmacia.

Continuemos manteniendo nuestra escuela segura y saludable. Gracias por todo su apoyo.

Linda Johnson, RN, enfermera de la escuela





Ask the Reading Teachers

How do I know that my child understands what he is reading? What should I do when he finishes a book?"

While your child is reading, you can tell if he understands if he laughs at the funny parts, spontaneously talks about what the characters are doing, or connects to an experience of his own. Encourage these natural responses, because they give you hints into what your child is thinking as he is reading. Along the same lines, if a child frowns or pauses or reads the punctuation wrong, these are hints that he is losing the overall meaning of the story. You'll want to slow him down and encourage him to reread those parts and maybe talk about what is happening in the book.

The best way to tell if your child understands what he has read is by talking to him. You don't need to check on him by asking a series of specific questions about the characters or setting: just talk naturally about the book. Try starting a conversation with something general like, "So what did you think of the book?" or "What was your favorite part?" or "Did it remind you of anything?"

When I finish reading a good book, I want to tell someone about it. I often call up a friend or my mom and talk about the parts I liked and the parts I keep thinking about. Give your child an opportunity to do the same. Be a good listener, and let your child share about the books he is reading.

Attached in this week's newsletter is a book mark with some conversation starters, if you'd like some ideas. You can use that to help you with your conversations.

"¿Cómo sé que mi niño/a entiende lo que él/ella está leyendo? ¿Qué debo hacer cuando termina un libro?"

Mientras su hijo/a está leyendo, puede saber si entiende si se ríe en las partes divertidas, espontáneamente habla sobre lo que los personajes están haciendo, o hace conexión a una experiencia propia. Fomente estas respuestas naturales, porque le dejan saber lo que su hijo/a está pensando cuando está leyendo. De la misma forma, si un niño/a mira el libro con el ceño fruncido o se detiene o lee la puntuación incorrectamente, esto le indica que él/ella está perdiendo el sentido general del cuento. Usted va a querer que lea más despacio y animarlo/a a leer nuevamente esas partes y tal vez hablar sobre lo que está pasando en el libro.

La mejor manera de saber si su niño/a entiende lo que leyó es hablando con él/ella. No es necesario hacerle una serie de preguntas concretas acerca de los personajes o el lugar donde se lleva a cabo el cuento: simplemente hable naturalmente acerca del libro. Pruebe iniciar una conversación con algo general como, "¿Cuál es tu opinión acerca del libro?" o "¿Cuál fue tu parte favorita?" o "¿Te recuerda a algo?"

Cuando termino de leer un buen libro, quiero decirle a alguien acerca de él. A menudo llamo a un amigo o mi mamá y hablamos sobre las partes que me gustaron y las partes en las que sigo pensando. Dele a su hijo/a la oportunidad de hacer lo mismo. Ser un buen oyente y deje que su hijo/a comparta los libros que está leyendo.

Around DCS - November 2011

AppleBee's Fundraiser a Success!

Saturday, November 19, 2011 from 8am- 10am about 80 DCS family members came out to support the AppleBee's Fundraiser. Ms. Iorio brought 12 members of her swim team for the event, while Ms. Schiavoni, Mr. Giglio, Ms. Gallo, and Ms. Scharf served up pancakes and bacon. Families enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere as children helped seat people, take drink orders and wrap silverware. A few kids remarked, "I feel like I'm a real hostess!" Among DCS staff who came to enjoy breakfast on a sunny Saturday morning was Mrs. DeNyse and Mr. Duncan. Thank you to all who came to support DCS and help out!



Around DCS - November 2011

College Day

Ms. Hans

On November 17th, Delaware Community School students learned about the college experience in partnership with Tammy Schillinger and The College of Saint Rose. College students presented during Morning Program, had a special prize drawing, and visited classes presenting various topics, reading books, and participating in some physical education classes. Pictured below are Ms. Hans, Ms. Joy, and Ms. Revesz as well as their students sporting college gear. Presentation topics included "Why College?," "Sports in College," "Living Away From Home/Clubs," "Student Government and RA," and "Living on Campus."



Family Movie Night/ Scholastic Book Fair



PBIS 1st Quarter Drawing



Around DCS - December 2011

DCS Art Show



PBIS Future Leaders



PBIS Cheetah Ticket Winners



Holiday Caroling



Around DCS - December 2011

Winter Concert

Congratulations to all of the students in band, orchestra and chorus. The concert on December 19th was wonderful. The students, faculty, staff and families of our DCS Community were treated to such great musicianship. A job well done by all three groups.

Thursday, December 22nd marked the first of what we hope will be an annual tradition at DCS. We held a school wide Caroling session in our Gymnasium as part of our Morning Program. It was festive, fun and a great way for everyone to get into the Holiday Spirit.

On Friday, December 23rd, Mrs. McGovern chose 30 3rd and 5th grade students to walk around the halls of DCS spreading more Holiday Cheer as we Caroled through each grade level. It was just another way to bring on the Holiday's!

Felicidades a todos los estudiantes en la banda, la orquesta y el coro. El concierto el 19 de diciembre fue maravilloso. Los estudiantes, los maestros, el personal y las familias de nuestra comunidad de DCS fueron deleitados con gran música. Los tres grupos hicieron un buen trabajo.

El jueves, 22 de diciembre marcó el primero de lo que esperamos sea una tradición anual en DCS. Tuvimos en la escuela una gran sesión de canciones en nuestro gimnasio como parte de nuestro Programa de la Mañana. Fue festivo, divertido y una gran manera de entrar en el espíritu de las celebraciones.

El viernes, 23 de diciembre, la Sra. McGovern eligió a 30 alumnos de 3 ° y 5 ° grado de DCS para cantar por los pasillos de cada grado extendiendo más alegría de las celebraciones. ¡Fue otra manera de recibir las celebraciones!

Note Card Artists



Around DCS

New Members of Safety Patrol!



January PBIS Future Leaders



Upcoming Events

After School Physical Education

Mr K's After-School P.E. Program has started. It is held Tuesday afternoons from 3:45-4:45 for 4th and 5th grade students. There is still room for more participants. Anyone who is interested can get a permission slip from Mr. K. The program will run until April 3rd.

Family Fitness Nights

Delaware Community School will have Family Fitness Nights with Zumba. The fun begins on Thursday, February 9th from 5:30 p.m. until 6:15 p.m. There is no admission charge and everyone is invited to attend.

La escuela "Delaware Community" tendrá Noches de Buena Forma Física para las Familias con Zumba. La diversión comienza el jueves, 9 de febrero de 5:30 p.m. hasta las 6:15 p.m. No hay ningún cargo de admisión y todos están invitados a asistir.

Delaware Community School Literacy Week

March 19th – March 23rd

Monday March 19th:

Library Awareness

Delaware Branch Library Visit:

DEAR: 10:30am

Tuesday March 20th:

Library Awareness

Delaware Branch Library Visit:

Passport Paraphrase

Wednesday March 21st:

Mystery Guest Readers

Thursday March

22nd:

Living Literature Day

Friday March 23rd:

Snack, Snuggle & Read

Traveling Troubadours

PTA Family Movie Night



City School District of Albany

Delaware Community School
43 Bertha Street

Phone: 518-475-6750
Fax: 518-475-6754
Principal: Thomas Giglio
E-mail: tgiglio@albany.k12.ny.us

Upcoming Issues: March 2012

Do you have a story to share?

Do you have information to pass along to our school community?

E-mail your information to a member of the Newsletter Committee.

(50 words or less please!)

Leanne Iorio

Dixie Lopez

Carmen Militello

Tere Wislous

Willow Zielinski

Meet the members of the Newsletter Team:

The Delaware News Club:

Janeth Ramirez

Bryan Grimes

Elijaha Fallen

Robert Johnson

Jeffrey Lembo

Jaylah Bryan

Lydia Navedo

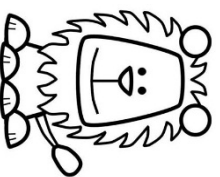
Ciarra Campbell

Leandro Mejia

Hilcias Jimenez

MARCH 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



1 Pre-K lottery applications available
 2 3rd Quarter Interim Marking Period Ends
 3 Science Night 5-7pm

4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Parent-Teacher Conference Day

Early Dismissal

11 12 13 14 15 16 17

18 19 20 PTA Mtg 6pm 21 22 23 24

Library Visits Library Visits Mystery Guest Readers Living Literature Day Snack, Snuggle & Read Family Movie Night

Literacy Week

25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Professional Development Day

NO SCHOOL

