

Dino Tracks

April
2010



A Publication of the Deep Wood Elementary PTA

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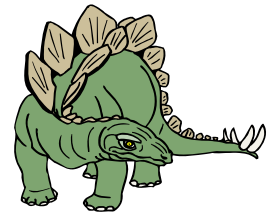
The complete newsletter can be accessed on the web:
www.deepwoodpta.org

A Note From the Principal

Dear parents,

Hi everyone! Can you believe that we are down to the last two months of school already? ☺ Time is flying by so quickly! The students are all working very hard to master academic skills in all grade levels. Remember that our TAKS Testing dates are:

April 6	5th TAKS MATH
April 7	5th TAKS READING
April 27	3rd, 4th TAKS MATH
April 28	3RD, 4th TAKS READING
April 29	5th TAKS SCIENCE



Please remember that we do not have visitors or volunteers in the building on any of these dates due to testing security. ☺

Thank you to all of you who are helping to work with our students in one-on-one or small group tutoring in various grade levels. Not only does your help impact our kids, but your support for our teachers and their needs is most appreciated. The Deep Wood Community is by far the best around! ☺

Remember that we will not have school on Friday, April 2, due to the Easter week-end. Also, don't forget our PTA 2nd Annual Bingo night on April 9th! This was a blast last year! We hope to see many of you participate this year. This will also be the installation of officers for the 2009-2010 PTA Executive Board.

Since April 5 is the day before 5th grade TAKS, we are not supposed to have any after-school activities that day, or on April 6th or 7th due to TAKS testing. Therefore, I will reschedule the Monday with Meredith for **Monday, April 12, from 6:00 – 6:30 p.m.** ☺

I look forward to seeing you at school!
Meredith ☺

Newsletter Submissions

Want to publish information in an upcoming newsletter? Please email your submission to newsletter@deepwoodpta.org. Submissions are due by the 20th of each month and may be edited for length or clarity.

The Round Rock Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer and provides educational services which do not discriminate on the basis of age, national origin, race, sex, color, religion, disability or against any other legally protected group. Complaints should be addressed to the district's legal department.

April 2010



From your PTA president...

Deep Wood Families,

Welcome to Spring! I hope all our Deep Wood families had a chance to enjoy Chili Supper, World Culture's Night, and Spring Break. April and May bring Bingo night, the Kinder Music program, Teacher Appreciation Week, Book Fair, our first annual Fun Run, Field Day, and end of year parties. Hopefully you will get a chance to enjoy some, if not all, of these fantastic events.

The Deep Wood PTA's cookbook is ready and available for purchase. Don't miss out on this wonderful book full of tried and true recipes from your neighbors and friends. Also, it is not too late to get a yearbook full of memories for only \$10.

Our nominating committee was formed and is hard at work contacting people about taking on a board position for the next school year. If you have not been contacted but are interested in taking on a position please contact me at the e-mail below. Many positions are open such as Silent Auction, Harvest Hoedown, Chili Supper, and so much more.

Please take the time to enjoy your neighborhood, your school, your friends and family. Summer is just around the corner!



With Dino Spirit,
Becky Velasco
PTA President
beckyvel@msn.com

Upcoming Events:

- April 1 Class/Spring Picture Day
- April 2 Holiday
- April 6 TAKS Math 5th (No visitors)
- April 7 TAKS Reading 5th (No visitors)
- April 8 TAKS Reading/Math Makeup 5th (No visitors)
- April 9 9:30 PTA Board
- April 9 Bingo Night 5:30pm-10:00pm
- April 12th Monday w/Meredith 6:00pm-6:30pm
- April 12th Site Base Meeting 3:00pm-4:00pm
- April 14th KG to Crowe's Nest Farm 9:15am-1:30pm
- April 16th KG Program for Parents 8:00am-8:45am
- April 22nd 3rd grade to Cinemark/RR Wes Park
- April 27th TAKS Math for 3rd & 4th (No visitors)
- April 28th TAKS Reading 3rd & 4th (No visitors)
- April 29th TAKS Science 5th (No visitors)
- April 30th Dino Pride 7:45am
- April 30th 4th to RR West Park 9:30am-1:00pm

Want to beat the back to school rush?



Avoid the long lines and shopping hassles when you order your child's school supplies through Deep Wood Elementary PTA. Supplies will be packaged, delivered, and waiting for your child in the classroom on *Meet the Teacher Night* in August! Look for the order form in your child's folder by mid-April. Sale begins in late April.



on another note

We had some great performances at our World Cultures Night in March. Thanks to all of the families and friends who were in our audiences. The first, third, and fourth graders really enjoyed sharing what we have learned in our music classes. We also collected \$364.17 with our PENNIES FOR PEACE project. We have sent the money to the Central Asia Institute to purchase school supplies and help pay teachers' salaries for students in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Thanks to all who donated to help our students learn that they can make a difference in the world.

We have another performance coming up on Friday, April 16th when our kindergarteners will perform "What I Learned in Kindergarten". The program will consist of songs we have worked on throughout the year that emphasized certain musical concepts and correlated with the classroom curriculum. The students will perform at 8:00 a.m. in the cafeteria.

The fifth graders are also preparing for a performance. We are presenting a recorder recital featuring the music we learned to earn our Recorder Karate Belts and more classical music learned by a group that is rehearsing after-school. The recital will be on Friday, April 23rd at 8:00 a.m. We are inviting the fifth grade families and this year's fourth graders to inspire them for next year.

The spring semester is a busy one. Second graders are learning a new rhythm, the half note, and two new pitches, Do and Re. The fourth graders are learning all about the instruments of the orchestra in preparation for a field trip in May to attend an Austin Symphony Orchestra concert and they are also learning how to read absolute pitch note names. Last year our school received a Partners in Education Foundation grant to purchase the music software Music Ace Maestro for each computer in our computer lab. Many classes will be going into the lab this spring to learn lessons and play games that teach several music concepts, including reading notes on the staff and reading rhythms. The students will be able to work independently at their own pace with head phones. We are really excited that Deep Wood students have been given this opportunity to use this technological tool to improve our music literacy.

"Sing"-cerely Yours,
Lorinda Choate

FROM THE ART STUDIO:

Many thanks to all the teachers, parent volunteers and students for helping to pull off another successful World Cultures Night on March 11th! Your time and participation is appreciated beyond measure! I am so proud of all of the student work! Art really rocks in all its forms!

Mary Reilly

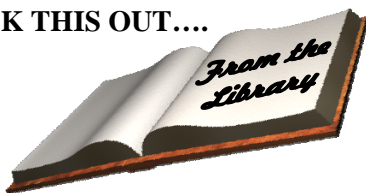
Visual Arts Educator

Deep Wood Elementary

mary_reilly@roundrockisd.org or 464-4420



CHECK THIS OUT....



The Book Fair is Coming!
April 3 - 5th, in the Library :
April 3 - PREVIEW DAY
April 4 & 5 - Shop from 7:30 to 4:00
Stock up for Summer reading!

Found Reading Program

The "Found" Reading Program ends on May 11th. This reading program is for grades 3, 4, and 5. Read the book "Found" by Margaret Haddix and pass it on to your friends. Our goal is for every student in these grade levels to read the book. You will receive a dogtag that says, "I am one of the missing!"

April 2010



Passport to America Field Day

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Friday, May 14th is the annual Deep Wood Field Day. If the weather is rainy, the field day will be rescheduled for the following Thursday, May 20th.

We are rounding up a large group of parent volunteers to assist with the organization of our Favorite's Field Day and would appreciate any help you choose to give us. As always, the success of field day depends on our volunteers. Since we have the best volunteers in the southwest, we are not worried.

Please check the following time(s) that you will be here to work with us. (The starting times are earlier than when the actual field day starts, to allow volunteers to check in and locate their station.)

_____ 7:55-10:40 PPCD, Kindergarten, First & Second Grade

_____ 11:55-2:40 Third, Fourth & Fifth Grade

_____ 2:35-2:45 Clean Up

_____ If necessary, I would be available on the rain date, May 28th

If you have volunteered, we will look for you on Friday, May 14th, at the time indicated. Volunteers should sign in at the table near the cafeteria. A staff member will direct you to your assigned station.

In addition to volunteers, we would like to borrow several wagons to help with our set up. We would also appreciate donations of sunscreen, so each class will have at least 2 bottles for those who forget. Large water jugs (5 or 10 gallon size) are needed for the water station. Please check below if you can help us out by lending any of these items for field day.

Your scheduled time will be confirmed in a note home the week before field day. Reminder notes concerning donations will also go out the week before field day.

Thanks again for all your support. With all of us working together, we can make this another very special and memorable day for our children.

Healthfully yours,
Mary Sue Thompson



I will be able to lend a wagon to help with the set up.

I will donate bottle/bottles of sunscreen.

I will be able to lend a water jug (5 or 10 gallon size) for the water station.

I will be able to donate fruit for a snack.

*****Please return this form by Friday, April 16th.

Parent's/Guardian's name _____

Phone number _____

Student's name _____

Homeroom teacher _____ Grade _____



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Betty Carbonneau

The March Character Trait is actually one of our Deep Wood PBS 3 B's – **Respect**. During this month, guidance class lessons will focus on respectful behavior towards other people (their ideas, their feelings, and their things) as well as good manners and other topics tied to treating others the way we want to be treated.

The Character Trait for April is **Self-Reliance**. During this month, guidance class lessons will focus on making appropriate choices, problem solving, decision making, honesty, and keeping ourselves safe. As per the district guidelines, the Child Lures Program will be taught in second grade. Parent explanation letters and a booklet about various topics will be sent home prior to the start of these classes.

Counselor **Dino Groups** continue to focus on Social Skills such as Ignoring Distractions, Using Self-Control, and Personal Space.

Counselor **Lunch Bunch Groups** continue to work on setting and working towards achieving specific personal goals as well as developing positive social skills through team building activities.

2nd annual Deep Wood Bingo Night

April 9

Deep Wood Cafeteria

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Dino Diner will be open serving nachos, hot dogs, drinks, popcorn, etc.

Movie Night and Book Swap for the little ones –
so bring your books to swap with your friends!

Order early - 5 games for \$5 or 10 games for \$10

At the door - 5 games for \$8 or 10 games for \$12

Questions - contact Sandy Mitschke @ 796.4111 or

sandymitschke@austin.rr.com

A big THANKS to everyone who contributed to the “**Pennies for Peace**” on World Cultures Night! Our total was \$364.17 which will purchase 36,417 pencils, or over 2,425 notebooks, or pay a teacher's salary for over half of a school year. Way to go, Dinos!



April 2010





YEARBOOKS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!

Don't miss out on all of the fun times and wonderful memories of the 2009-2010 school year! We still have a few copies left but when they're gone, they're gone!

Just fill out the order form below and return it before with your payment! Yearbooks are just \$10 each and are promised to be fun, fun, fun!

Please address checks to Deep Wood PTA. We'll distribute the books the last week or so of the school year.

Questions? Ask Lauri Etheridge at lmetheridge@gmail.com

It's your yearbook! Make sure it reflects visions of you!

Student name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Student name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Student name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

I wish to order _____ copies of the yearbook @ \$10 each

Total enclosed: \$ _____



Kinder

Kindergarten will enjoy researching animal and plants as we watch things change and grow this month. Spring observations are well underway and our little scientists are taking notes. We will solve many math problems through addition and subtraction. Mark your calendars! Our kindergarten music program is scheduled for Friday, April 16th at 8:00 in the morning.

1st Grade

The month of April is full of exciting activities. We are studying life cycles of animals and plants. We will be watching a life cycle up close and personal by hatching some eggs in an incubator. Hopefully we will have a great hatch this year! In Math we will be studying about the fractions $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, and $\frac{1}{3}$. We will then review the addition and subtraction facts through 18. Keep reading and practicing those math facts at home every night. We will continue to write small moment stories and edit them for capital letter, punctuation and spelling. We are all becoming such wonderful writers.

2nd Grade

Spring has definitely sprung in 2nd grade! We are in full bloom and at full speed finishing up this year. In math we will learn about capacity, mass, and length. In Social Studies we will begin our classes with Junior Achievement volunteers which ties in well with our economics unit. In Science we will learn about different animal groups. Continue having your child practice their math facts, so they can achieve mastery before the end of the year. Please also continue to have your child read nightly for at least 20 minutes. Save the date, May 6th, so you can join us on our field trip fossil hunting at Pease Park. The District Reading/Writing and Math Benchmarks will be given in April. We look forward to a fantastic performance on those tests! As always, we appreciate your support in your child's education.

3rd Grade

Third Grade students did a Marvelous job at World Cultures Night - thanks to our wonderful Music teacher, and they were so proud to show parents their beautiful art work with Mrs. Reilly as their guide. As we begin our last nine weeks, students are doing great showing strategies on TAKS homework. Remember the 3rd Grade Math TAKS is 4/27 and Reading TAKS is 4/28. Students are writing personal narratives and poetry in Writer's Workshop. They continue to improve reading skills in Literature Circles and with the weekly 100 reading minutes. Students are using problem solving skills while studying Geometry. For Science we are learning about the parts of plants. In Social Studies we are learning about historical figures and their impact on our community. Thanks for your continued support, contributions, and participation.

4th Grade

April brings another round of TAKS testing to fourth grade. On 4/27 students will take the TAKS math test, and 4/28 will be the reading test. Please be sure your child gets a good night's sleep and has a healthy breakfast. In preparation for TAKS, students will have review homework each week. This will help to prepare students for the test by familiarizing them with the format and reviewing concepts that we have learned throughout the year. On Friday, April 30th, we will be going to the Duck Pond for a field trip. Watch for permission slips coming home. In April students will begin studying geometry in math. In Science we will continue life cycles and patterns of change. In Social Studies we will learn about the Civil War and Reconstruction in Texas. Reading will focus on summarizing a text and finding the main idea in a passage of reading.

5th Grade

Rested and ready describes our 5th graders after a great Spring Break! By now, you should have received the yellow Sea World letter informing you of the \$20 deposit and chaperone sign up that was due by April 1st. Mrs. Doyle has really worked hard to get all of the final arrangements completed so that we can all go and have a great time without any worries. **IMPORTANT:** Math TAKS is on Tuesday, April 6th, Reading TAKS is on Wednesday, April 7th and Science TAKS is on Thursday, April 29th! We encourage lots of rest, a good breakfast and an upbeat pep talk for all three tests. These last weeks of 5th grade are always busy!

