

Dino Tracks

December
2008



A Publication of the Deep Wood Elementary PTA

What's Inside This Edition

- Counselor Article
- Principal/President's Letters
- Info from specials
- HH Thank You
- **Up-Close w/our administrators**
- Grade level updates

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

Focus On: Your School Counselor



By:
**Marie
Gonzales**

Our school counselor is Betty Carbonneau. She is a friendly face around campus and at many school functions, but what does the actual day-to-day job of an elementary school counselor entail? Ms. Carbonneau reports that the three most important parts of her job are: counseling and mediating between students, parents, and staff; group counseling of students to address a variety of issues, including social skills, study skills, self-esteem, and teamwork, among others; and classroom guidance on topics like bullying, careers, character education, etc. When asked what she likes most about her job, Ms. Carbonneau said, "My favorite part of counseling is working with students, teachers, and parents." She also likes that there is never a dull moment, adding, "Every day is different, and I like that."

Parents are encouraged to contact Ms. Carbonneau for behavior management ideas, concerns about emotional issues, or to discuss anything that is impacting their child. Our counselor is proud to be a Dino and to be a support for any students, staff, or parents in our community.

Ms. Carbonneau also has reason to be proud in her other role, as mother to two grown daughters. Both have graduated from college and are active in their respective careers, and perhaps most importantly, have made her a grandmother several times over. She said, "Being a grandmother is the only thing I love to do as much as counseling at Deep Wood!"

Ms. Carbonneau originally hails from Kansas, where she attended college and taught elementary school for a while. She has moved around quite a bit, also working in Ohio, Nebraska, and even Temple, Texas. Her favorite vacation was a trip to Maui, Hawaii, and she looks forward to the day she takes a cruise to Alaska with friends.

For now, though, Ms. Carbonneau calls Round Rock – and Deep Wood – home, and we're so glad she does. It's important to her that parents know she is "very involved in the development of our Deep Wood students on every level – physical, social, emotional, behavioral, and academic."

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.

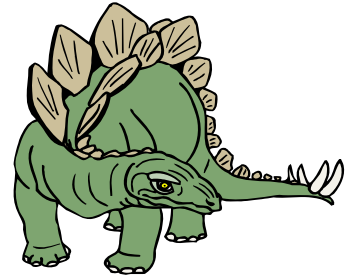
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Dec 2008



A Note From the Principal

Congratulations to the PTA and all volunteers who provided the wonderful Hoedown this month! WOW!! That was so much fun! I know that it takes a lot of manpower to provide such a wide variety of activities for all the students! A HUGE thank-you goes out to everyone who helped! ☺



At our “Monday with Meredith” this month, we had representatives from Food Services come to describe the CATCH program (eating healthy foods) that is being implemented in elementary schools. ACE, the CATCH mascot, is scheduled to be in the cafeteria on November 25 during lunches to hand out apples to the students. The Campus Improvement Plan for 2008-09 was shared also. We will post the Campus Improvement Plan on the webpage so that everyone will have access to it. Kindergarten won the first round of our Positive Behavior Support contest! This is the contest that we have in which classes are working together as teams to demonstrate our 3 “B”s – be safe, be courteous, be respectful – and are receiving a “football” to post on the cafeteria wall by their class name. Our current contest will run until the last day of school in December. At the end of the December, we will count “footballs” again and announce the K – 5 grade level winners, as well as the grade level team, who set the best examples for the school! Classes are setting goals with their teachers for behavior, as well as academic goals. Thank you to all who participated in our food drive! Mrs. Lena’s class really worked hard to count, sort, and keep up with the grade level totals every day. We appreciate all of you for supporting this worthy cause which provides food for Round Rock’s food bank.

Dates to remember in December include: **November 26 – 28 Thanksgiving holidays, Dec. 1, 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. “Monday with Meredith” in the library, Book Fair from December 1 – 4, Choir Concert December 2 at 6:00 p.m., Class Winter Parties on December 18 at 1:30 (this is a change!), December 19, 8:00 a.m. Sing Along in the cafeteria, Winter holidays from December 22 – January 2. Be sure to check our calendar on line for other events as well! ☺**

Have a wonderful, safe Thanksgiving holiday with your loved ones!

Meredith ☺

I hope to see you soon!

Meredith Perkins ☺

Principal,

Deep Wood Elementary

Nurse Kellee Flemmons reminds everyone to do their part to prevent the spread of the flu this winter by getting a flu vaccine now. THANKS!



From your PTA president...

Was Hoedown great or what! It was a beautiful day and everyone really seemed to have a great time. We are so glad everyone turned out to support Deep Wood Elementary! Becky Velasco did a fabulous job putting all the games, food, decorations, and entertainment together. She and her army of volunteers once again pulled together a day to remember!

Some upcoming events include the book fair, a general PTA meeting and choir concert on 12/2, the 3rd grade economics fair, and the most fun of all, our winter parties and holiday break!

As the year is coming to a close, I need to put a bug in everyone's ear. It's time to start thinking about what you want your PTA Executive Board to look like next year. The terms of Tina, Sylvia, and I are up at the end of the school year so someone has to take over the reigns – President, Vice President, and Treasurer. I certainly hope there's someone out there that is willing to step up to the plate! We need folks to form the 'search' committee so please let us know you'll help here. And, if you don't come forward, I can promise we'll come looking for you! Just a little bit of your time devoted to PTA and Deep Wood makes an incredible difference in your school and your child's education and experience!

I hope everyone enjoys this holiday season and health and happiness to all in 2009! See you then!

Thanks!
Lauri Etheridge
PTA President 2008-2009

Upcoming Events:

- 12/1 Monday w/Meredith (6:00 PM)
- 12/2 – 12/4 Book Fair
- 12/2 Choir Concert/Book Fair (6:00 PM)
- 12/4 Nutcracker for 1st/2nd (8:30 AM)
- 12/16 3rd Grade Economics Fair (8-10 AM)
- 12/18 Winter Parties, all grades (1:30)
- 12/19 Sing-a-Long (8:00)
- 12/22 – 1/2 Winter Break
- 1/5 Monday w/Meredith (8:00)
- 1/16 Student Holiday/Staff Development
- 1/19 Holiday/MLK Day
- 1/22 – 1/23 Science Fair
- 1/30 Dino Pride

Do you feel that chili in the air??

No need to pout, shout, cry or feel down,
Chili Cook-off is coming to town!
Lasso the family recipe, fire up the crock pot
And prepare yourselves to eat a lot!

Mark your calendars: FRIDAY NIGHT
FEBRUARY 6th

Join the Cook-off Committee:
francine18@austin.rr.com



Here is the vacation log students can keep over the holidays. Please turn it in to PE teacher Mary Sue Thompson after the winter break. Questions? Call Mrs. Thompson at 464-4416. Play hard!!!

Date	Physical Activity	Signature
Dec. 20		
Dec. 21		
Dec. 22		
Dec. 23		
Dec. 24		
Dec. 25		
Dec. 26		
Dec. 27		
Dec. 28		
Dec. 29		
Dec. 30		
Dec. 31		
Jan. 1		
Jan. 2		
Jan. 3		
Jan. 4		





Clinic Notes

Usually sneezes are a sign that there's something in your nose and your body wants to get rid of it. Without thinking, you take a big breath and blast it through your nose and mouth spraying whatever germs, dust, or other particles tickled your nose in the first place. Sneezing's just one part of your body's defense system—a system that protects you from germs that can make you mildly sick or dangerously ill. But let's say you're already sick with a simple cold or something more serious, the flu virus. These are spread very easily. When you sneeze, others breathe in the germs that you spray into the air. Did you know that when you sneeze particles leave your mouth and nose at a rate of 93 m.p.h. and travel as far as 30 ft away? If you cough into your hand those germs spread to everything you touch: doorknobs, faucets, the telephone, the computer mouse, a friend's hand. And those germs can survive there for three long hours! Then your family or your best friend comes along and puts their hand on the same surface, or touches their hand to their eyes or nose. Now those germs are inside them. So with flu season approaching, please remember when you feel a sneeze or cough coming on, use a tissue then wash your hands. Or, if there's no time, cough or sneeze into your shirt sleeve. Any germs you spray will die there instead of traveling in the air or on your hand to other surfaces to someone else. Help us prevent the spread of colds and viruses this season by talking about prevention and practicing handwashing with your child.

The Harvest Hoedown was a great success. It was a beautiful day with excellent music, good food, and lots of fun. This event is not possible without the generosity of others. I would like to thank the following:

Margie Reed and Sysco for the food donations

Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association for the drink donations

Leslie Kutz and the CTMS Youth Art Club and Michelle Santos and the CTMS Fellowship of Christian Athletes who manned the concessions and Rainbow Salon

Jeannine Lowrance and the CTMS Helping Hands for providing extra booth coverage

Kevin Johnson and Wag-a-Bag for the ice donation

The Blue Diamonds for their wonderful music

Kevin Baldree, Austin Moonwalks for the moonwalks, bungee run, cotton candy machine

Bret Covington and The Farm Zoo for the Petting Zoo

Pack 155 for the Balloon Launchers

Keep Austin Beautiful for the recycling containers

Renee Hightower a.k.a. the pizza lady for the pizza

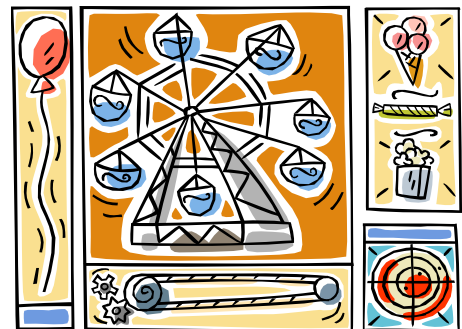
Alex with Maui Wowi for the fruit smoothies

Julie Worley for her balloon artistry

The Deep Wood PTA

The amazing Deep Wood Custodians

All the wonderful staff, 5th graders, and parents that helped prepare, set-up, run, and break-down the event



Thank you for an excellent experience,

Becky Velasco

Harvest Hoedown Chairperson



Thank You

Austin Park and Pizza, Dale Mitschke
Baskin Robbins, Dora Mueller
Brett Covington
Caffe Sanora, Allison Minton
Castillo Music Studio, Jaime & Valerie Castillo
Ceramic Lodge, Carolyn Cowan
Chuy's, Barbara Digel
Cinemark 14 Round Rock, Mark Brusniak
Cisco, Margie Reed
Claudia and David Hansen
Cracker Barrell, Mark Hernandez
Debra Stinson
Dr. John Zavala, DDS
Dr. Joseph Murphy, DDS
Ed Francis Drum Instruction
Egghead Kids, Susan Chick
El Matador, Cheryl Joseph
Express Care 620
Fire Bowl Café
Friar Tucks Pantry, Debra Stevenson
Fuddrucker's, James Harrison
GNC, Gayle Polak
Hill Country Personal Chef, Gary Zeiner
Hoody's Sub Shop
Image Hair Consultants, Sonia DeLaurier
Interstate Lanes, Kenneth Judge
Janie Veach
Jennifer Swindell
Julie Kelso
Julie Worley
Jungle Java, Nikki Henson
Kid's Acting Studio
Kim Oakley
Kwik Kar Lube & Tune
Leslie's Pet Purrfection, Leslie Sapp and Caren Lee
Mary Kay Cosmetics, Julie Lewin
McDonald's
Meg McReynolds, Dog Trainer
Michelle Jackson
Ninette Romanos

Putt N Funn Zone, Kirstiana Schaefer
Red Lobster
Ronnie Risinger
Salon Diva
Sandy Mitschke
Silpada, Maria Mock
Simply Suzi, Suzanne Kehrer
620 Café and Bakery, Brandy Jones
Snip Its
Stampin' Up, Shana Cobiere
Starbucks, Clinton Mollenkopf
Sweet Love & Sugar Britches, Julia Broadway
Texas Jumping Beans, Bruce Bowles
Texas Roadhouse, Lucinda Clark
Texas Stars, Shaleen Wilding
The Thinking Cap, Shelly Smith
Velvet New, Velvet Touch Massage
Wag-a-Bag
Windshadow Martial Arts, Clay Worley
and Joye Zverina
York Clamann
Yvette Chacon, Nail Professional

.... And to all the parents and teachers
who provided items for our class
baskets and treats!

Harvest Hoedown could not happen
without our many supports and donors.
THANK YOU!

Lauri Etheridge, PTA President



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Elizabeth Carbonneau, Deep Wood Counselor

Each year it is truly amazing to see the developmental changes that occur with our students during the fall semester of school, and this year is no exception. They are growing academically, socially, emotionally, and physically in very positive ways in preparation for their future and we are proud to be a part of that process at Deep Wood School.

We continue to have monthly **Character Traits** that students are learning about and demonstrating in connection with our **3 B's : Be Safe - Be Responsible - Be Respectful.**

November: **RESPONSIBILITY** - To be reliable and dependable with myself and others in all of my words, actions and choices.

November: **INITIATIVE** - To take the first step, movement or action towards what needs to be done instead of waiting to be told to do it.

December: **COMPASSION** – To show kindness, caring and empathy to others and treat all people with dignity and respect.

December: **EMPATHY** – To understand and share in another person's emotions, thoughts and feelings.

Guidance Classes continue to focus on Anti-Bullying, Careers, Character Traits and Conflict Resolution Skills.

Social Skills Groups are working on Listening, Self-Control and Following Directions.

Study Skill Groups are focused on Learning Styles and Organizational Skills.

Clothes Closet needs your help!

We need two volunteers to help at the clothes closet on Dec. 18th and Jan. 22nd from 9:30 to 11:30 at Voigt Elementary school. Please contact Becky Velasco (341-9204, beckyvel@msn.com) if you are able to fill this need.

Deliver used clothing in good condition to the nurse's office.
Thank you!





on another note

CHECK THIS OUT....

Author Brian Anderson visited Deep Wood on November 21st! He is the author of the Zack Proton series. Mr. Anderson is a chemistry professor at UT and combines science and humor in his writing! To learn more about the books, take a look at the Official Intergalactic Web site of Zack Proton:
<http://www.zackproton.com/>

Also, December 2nd - 4th is our first Book Fair of the year!!! Mark your calendars! Plan to shop for the holidays at our Book Fair. A portion of the proceeds helps the library to buy books and bring great authors to inspire our children. Tuesday night the Book Fair will be open after the choir concert. The concert begins at 6:00.

Laurie Thelen
Teacher-Librarian
Deep Wood Elementary Library
laurie_thelen@roundrockisd.org

December brings two musical performances to Deep Wood. On Tuesday, December 2nd the *Tyrannochorus Rex*, Deep Wood's after-school choir for fourth and fifth graders, presents *Disney Dazzle*, a concert featuring music from *Toy Story*, *The Lion King*, *Pocohontas*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Little Mermaid*, and *Aladdin*. The concert will be in the cafeteria at 6:00 p.m.

You are also invited to come and get in the holiday spirit at our Holiday Sing-Along on Friday, December 19th at 8:00 a.m. in the cafeteria. This annual event features performances by all grade levels and the faculty and is a great way to enjoy the holiday fun with our Deep Wood family.

Please remember you can always get more information on my teacher web page, which includes the weekly newsletter telling you what we are learning in class each week.

"Sing-cerely" yours,
Lorinda Choate

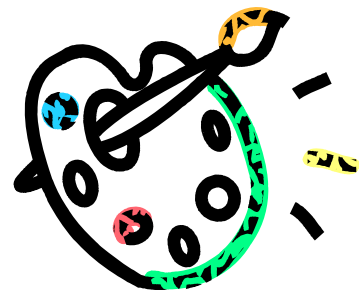
Check Mrs. Reilly's Web-Site through the Teacher's Web: <http://TeacherWeb.com/TX/DeepWood/art>

Art and Music will begin focusing on world cultural units with each grade level. The children love it as much as we do. Please go to the DW web site, click on Teachers Web then find Mrs. Reilly's web pages. You can investigate each icon to get information about all areas of DW's Visual Arts.

Thanks for the fun at Family Art Night! ...We had over 180 participants!
Creativity rocks at Deep Wood.

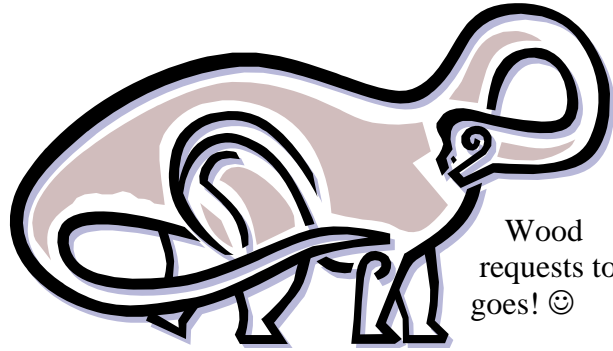
We're busy!

Mary Reilly
Visual Arts Specialist
Deep Wood Elementary



November 20, 2008

Dear Deep Wood Community,
I have met many of you already and wanted to let all of you know how absolutely thrilled I am to be at Deep Elementary! I have had several all of you know more about me, so here



Wood
requests to let
goes! 😊

I was born and raised in Waco, Texas, until my husband's job moved our family to Houston for the last 25 years. As a graduate of Baylor University, I taught as a special education teacher in various elementary school settings in Waco, as a resource teacher as well as a teacher for a classroom of severely emotionally disturbed elementary children. Upon our move to Houston, I taught middle and high school subjects in a psychiatric hospital for 5 years for students who were in-patients at this facility.

After 5 years, I changed districts to teach in the same district in which my two sons attended school in order to be on the same schedule as they were. I began teaching in Cypress Fairbanks ISD at a school for severely emotionally disturbed middle and high school students. While I was at this school, I began my Masters in Education degree at the University of Houston, along with completion of my Mid-Management Certification for Administrators. After seven years at this campus, I began my administrative career as an assistant principal at a CFISD elementary school for the next nine years.

I was named principal of another elementary school in CFISD, where I remained for the last five years, before moving to this area. My move to the Austin/Round Rock area was an effort to be closer to my family! 😊 I have been married to a fabulous guy, Wesley, for the last 32 years. We have two wonderful sons, Ross (who is living in Seattle, Washington) and Scott (who lives in Austin with his family). I am thrilled that I have a daughter now (daughter-in-law technically), Elizabeth, as well as my only grandchild, Brooklyn, who competes now for being the light of my life! My mom and dad live in Waco, as well as many members of my husband's family.

I love to work with kids, have fun doing anything with my family, and be outside! My hobbies in the past included horseback riding, volleyball, track, and most water sports. Now, I relax by working with my German Shepherd, Guenther, walking, hiking, planting flowers, and watching movies that make me laugh! 😊

My vision for students is that we do everything possible to ensure that their elementary school years are filled with love, laughter, an exciting challenge of learning, and success beyond their dreams, to enable them to be lifelong learners who are successful, positive problem-solvers with the initiative and belief in themselves that will allow them to tackle any challenge that comes their way. I believe that when we all work as one team together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish for our kids!

Whatever it takes, success is the **ONLY OPTION!**

Meredith Perkins 😊



November 2008

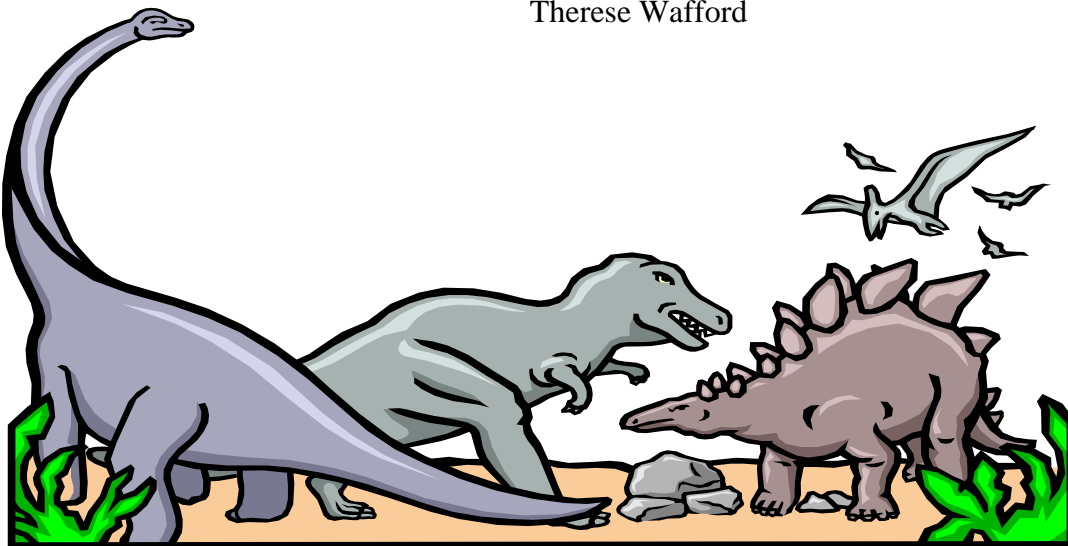
To the Deep Wood Community,

It is my pleasure to be a part of the Deep Wood community as an Assistant Principal. My teaching career began when I earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Applied Learning and Development from the University of Texas in 2000. For the past 8 years I was a master teacher at Jollyville Elementary (teaching grades 2, 4, & 5 as well as ESL and TAG students), served as an instructional leader, and worked on several committees for the district. I accepted this position to work with Mrs. Perkins to support her vision for Deep Wood Elementary. Presently, I am completing my internship with Concordia University and look forward to earning my Master's in Educational Administration this December.

I feel fortunate to be able to pursue my professional goals with the support of my family; they are an integral part of my life and success. My husband and I have been married for 27 years and blessed with three incredible children. Our oldest son and his lovely wife, who are building their life together in Cedar Park, have a wonderful little boy who is the light of our lives. Our second son owns a home in Cedar Park and is successfully achieving his career goals. The youngest child, our daughter, has ventured off to west Texas to attend South Plains College then will transfer to Texas Tech next fall semester; we are very proud of her but miss her terribly. As you can see we are officially empty nesters and have time to pursue some new hobbies together.

This year, I look forward to learning new things, getting to know familiar faces, working with your children and supporting this community. I truly enjoy coming to work each and every day. Through the dedication of Deep Wood teachers, staff, parents and students, we can all achieve great things . . . whatever it takes! Being a part of your community is something I take a lot of pride in.

Sincerely,
Therese Wafford



Deep Wood STACKS UP!

Deep Wood participated in a world wide event on November 13, 2008. We spent the day during specials stacking cups. This was to set a new Guinness World Record for "Most People Sport Stacking at Multiple Locations in One Day." We had a wonderful time and the final count has not been given yet. The old record was 143,530 and the latest tally was 216,192 as of November 20, 2008 at 7:00 a.m. If you want more information on this event and to find out if we made the new record in the Guinness World Record slot go on line to <http://www.worldsportstackingassociation.org/whois.php>

WAY TO GO DEEP WOOD!!!



Thank you to all the students who submitted entries for the Reflections program. We would like to recognize them for a job well done!

Abigail Powers

Adam Gallardo

Addie Franklin

Aidan Mercado

Alexander Gonzales

Alexandra Gallardo

Annie Dixon

Aynsleigh Fettig

Brittany Norris

Brooke Aguinaga

Deona Phillips

Eden Gordon

Eli Morrison

Elyssa Koog

Emily Koog

Eric Paredes

Erin Gordon

Erin Hudgins

Hannah Vasquez

Heidi Wilding

James Thomas Ahmann

Jashua Castillo

Katharine Scwab-Fike

Kelsey Runkle

Lainie Ochoa

Lindsey Etheridge

Lorena Gayton

Mason Herring

Michael Burke

Miller Evans

Nicholas Starich

Nicole Kelly

Parker McAnally

Rachel Spratt

Sam Dixon

Xavier Mercado



Thank you to all who turned in their Box Tops for Education this fall. We were very excited to send in over \$1,200 worth of Box Tops! The donation for this semester will go to the shade structure for the playground. As you do your holiday shopping and baking, please look for Box Tops products; you can go to the website: www.boxtops4education.com for coupons, recipes, and links to on-line merchants who will make a donation based on your purchase. And save those Box Tops for our next collection in the spring!



Kinder

The kindergarten team would like to thank all of the wonderful parent volunteers that have improved the quality of education for our students. We have busy homeroom moms, Monday folder parents and Friday copy parents. We would also like to thank the PTA for the many hours they volunteer doing the numerous tasks that make this an excellent campus for learning and growing. We hope you have a safe and wonderful winter break.

Although December is a short month it is still very busy! First grade will sew stockings on Friday, December 5th. Many thanks to all who will pre-cut the material, thread needles and come to help. First grade holiday party will be Thursday, December 18th from 1:30-2:30. We will be studying different Christmas customs from around the world. If you have a family tradition or custom you'd like to share, please contact Ms. Kligora at school. Her email address is Alice_Kligora@roundrockisd.org or her phone number is 464-4430. Don't forget to read over the holiday break! The children have made a lot of progress and we'd like to see it continue into the next year.

2nd Grade

Wow! Can you believe the school year is almost 1/2 over? In math we will be continuing our addition and subtraction with regrouping of 2-digit numbers and learning how to use a T-chart when working on patterns. We will also be determining the value of coins and reviewing measurement for length. In Science, we will be finishing our units on natural resources and discovering physical changes as we grow crystals. To end this semester, we will be integrating Social Studies with our Language Arts as we learn about a variety of traditions and customs celebrated during the winter holidays. On Dec. 18th, we will be having our class holiday party at 1:30 and on Dec. 20th we will have the school-wide sing-a-long. The second grade team wishes all of our Deep Wood parents a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We had a fabulous time at the Harvest Hoedown, donated many boxes of Food for the food drive, and had an Author visit our campus. Mrs. Nichols' class completed their Robotics Building, and Mrs. Kruger's class is now in their rotation. Third grade will take a trip to the PAC for a performance by the Westwood Fine Arts Academy 12/4. We will also have our Annual Economic Fair 12/16. Regarding academics, we are continuing Literacy Circles in Reading and developing writing skills in Writer's workshop. In Math students are using problem solving strategies related to multiplication - study those facts. In Social Studies we have studied government, including being part of the school wide mock election. In Science we have been exploring the solar system. We appreciate your helping hands and hearts as you continue to help our Dinos keep "digging" deeper.

4th Grade

Fourth graders will study Early European Colonization in Social Studies. They will identify economic motivations for European exploration and colonization. They will learn how Spanish and Mexican colonial governments influenced Texas. We are hard at work on multiplication and division, and we will soon begin studying area, perimeter and measurement using standard and customary units. In Science our fourth graders will study properties of soil such as texture, capacity to retain water, and the ability to support life. In Language Arts students are identifying the purposes of different types of texts such as to inform, influence, express or entertain. They will be participating in a Reading Camp soon. Happy Holidays from the Fourth Grade!

Can you believe it, the holidays are upon us already! In math we've been studying and measuring perimeter, area, and volume and the students are doing fantastic work. We will then look forward to studying fractions. Body Systems will be our next unit of study in science and we will also use microscopes to study plant and animal cells. We are completing our units on colonization and getting ready to start learning about the growing tensions between the Colonies and Britain. We are honing and refining our reading skills and getting ready to tackle the TAKS!! We hope you all enjoy a wonderful holiday season!