



HOLDREGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Franklin Washington R-7

October 2009

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Thursday, October 1st:
Fire Prevention Parade-
6:30 pm
- Monday, October 5th:
1:30 pm Dismissal
4-8pm Parent Teacher
Conferences
- Tuesday, October 6th:
1:30 pm Dismissal
- Wednesday, October
7th: **No School**
- Thursday, October 8th:
1:30 pm Dismissal
2-6 pm Parent Teacher
Conferences
- Friday, October 9th:
No School
- Monday, October 12-
Friday, October 16:
Box Tops Collection
- Friday, October 30th:
No School

Mailing address for all elementary schools:

PO Box 2002
Holdrege, NE 68949

Washington: 995-4339

Franklin: 995-4269

R-7: 995-6179

Holdrege Public Schools
Website:

www.thedusters.org

October brings shorter, cooler days, falling leaves, and changes all around us. We are also ending our first quarter of the school year this month. Our Elementary schools have a number of activities, items of interest you should know, and changes in dismissals this month, so be sure to read the newsletter carefully.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Our first quarter of school ends on Friday, October 16th. Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Monday, October 5th from 4-8 pm and on Thursday, October 8th from 2-6 pm.



No School/Early Dismissals

On the following days, there will be no school for Holdrege Public Schools:
Wednesday, October 7th
Friday, October 9th
Friday, October 30th.

In addition to the usual Friday 1:30 pm dismissals, we will dismiss at 1:30 pm on the following days:
Monday, October 5th
Tuesday, October 6th
Thursday, October 8th

Colder Weather

With fall just arriving, the weather can be quite deceiving. Although the forecast may call for afternoons in the 70's and 80's, the mornings are still quite cold. Please make sure your children come to school with coats and socks, and if necessary, hats, mittens, and boots. Please do not send your child to school with open toed shoes or flip-flops. We will be going outside at recess whenever possible. Children should not be at school before 7:40 and dismissal is 3:20 for children to leave the playground.

Family Reading Program Fundraiser

It is that time of year again for our annual fundraiser, the Family Reading Program! Your child will be bringing home more information this week. This program is a wonderful fundraiser for our schools. In the past it has helped purchase playground equipment, learning materials, cameras, and computer software. Thank you for helping to make our school a better place!



Blackboard Connect is the computerized telephone service of the district. We use this service to contact parents about important events, low or negative lunch balances, and emergency situations. If you have changes to your telephone number, it is very important to let your child's school know so we can contact you in an emergency.

Weather Emergencies

When weather or emergency issues arise, we often cannot plan for them. Please make a plan with your children as to what to do or where to go if school has to be closed early with little warning. It is a concern that students do not know what to do in such a situation. Phone calls and messages are difficult to dispatch at this time. It helps if your child has an idea of what he/she is to do in these situations ahead of time.

PTO

Box Tops Collection for our Parent Teacher Organization will be held from Monday, October 12th through Friday, October 16th. Please be watching for more information regarding this and other exciting PTO events.



Pizza Hut Pizza

In order to keep the lunch accounting as easy as possible, if your child wants an extra piece of pizza on Pizza Hut day, the cost of it will be deducted from their meal account. If your child has money in his/her meal account, you don't have to send extra money on that day if you don't want to. If your child receives free meals, you will need to put money into their account to cover the cost of the extra piece of pizza. You may either send money on that day pizza is served, or you can put money in your child's meal account ahead of time to plan for pizza days. You may call the office at any time to inquire about your child's balance.

Absences

If your child is going to be absent, please let either the office or classroom teacher know as soon as possible. If your child is sick, please call the school office by 8:00 am. Wednesday is the day that we report to Two Rivers Health Department how many students are absent from school due to illness and what the symptoms are. Please let us know your child's symptoms when you call in an absence. Your help is appreciated.

Messages for Students

We understand that emergencies arise on occasion. We can deliver messages, but class time is interrupted. Please plan ahead as much as possible.

Extra Milk

If your child wants extra milk with a meal, his/her account will be charged an additional \$0.35. If your child receives free or reduced meals, brings a sack lunch and would like milk, you must pay for the milk. Free or reduced meal status only covers school meals and not extra milk if you bring a lunch from home.

4th Graders Attend Nebraska Kids Fitness & Nutrition Day

On Friday, September 18, the Holdrege 4th graders were one of many area schools that attended the Nebraska Kids Fitness & Nutrition Day (NKFND) at University of Nebraska-Kearney. The morning was spent on UNK's Foster Field participating in 16 fitness stations. UNK exercise science and physical education majors hosted each station. Stations varied from a spider web and step aerobics, to fitness balls and a bug zapper game. The cup stacking relay was a big hit! A roast beef sandwich sack lunch was provided by the Nebraska Beef Council.



After lunch the students enjoyed a couple nutrition sessions hosted by Two Rivers Public Health Department on portion distortion, caloric intake vs. physical activity, and good hand hygiene. Each participant received a NKFND t-shirt and water bottle. In addition to many healthy reminders, fun was had by all!

Left: Kennedy Stolz being helped through a "spider web" at Nebraska Kids Fitness and Nutrition Day.

Red Ribbon Week Is Coming...

Friday, October 23:
Show your school spirit
drug free (wear purple
and gold/Duster
clothes)

Monday, October 26:
Follow your dreams...
Don't do drugs (wear
pajamas)

Tuesday, October 27:
Yes we can be drug free
(everyone bring a
canned good for the
food pantry)

Wednesday, October 28:
Walk out against drugs
(wear walking/tennis
shoes for a healthy walk
outside)

More information will be
sent home with your
child later this month.

***The mission of the
Holdrege Public
Schools is to pre-
pare students to be
lifelong learners
and productive,
responsible citizens
by providing a
quality education
in cooperation with
family and commu-
nity.***

In the Classroom...

Mrs. Sundquist—Second Grade—Franklin

October means:

Off to a great first quarter in Mrs. Sundquist's second grade classroom.

Counting by evens, odds, threes, and fours, studying place value and graphs, and practicing addition strategies in math.

Taking a field trip to the museum - we will see Mrs. Sundquist's grandfather's dentist chair.

Outer space was our first Science unit. We enjoy using our Science textbook to find information.

Bugs - insects and spiders are creepy things we will learn about during Halloween.

Every reading story is filled with opportunities to study new vocabulary words, learn comprehension skills, and practice reading with fluency and expression.

Readng, Riting, Rithmetic keep us Really busy as we learn to be Responsible second graders.

Mrs. Edgren—Art—Washington & R7

We are so glad to be underway in our art education! Grades K- 4 have all started the year with the study of the first three elements of art: line, shape, and color. However, everyone has studied it from a different perspective. Kindergarteners have had fun with different types of lines. They have acted them out, named and described them, and painted them! They also know the difference in organic and geometric shape and have created a collage like Henri Matisse. First graders have studied Bridget Riley's Op art, grumpy Mondrian's compositions, and are now working on Grant Wood's landscapes.

Second graders studied line, shape, and pattern in Victor Vaserey's work, and have amazed themselves and the staff with their ability to draw a still life of Raggedy Ann and Andy. They didn't amaze me; I knew they could do it. Finally, the fourth graders have been challenged to use contour line to draw what they see with their most important art tools—their eyes! We were inspired by Monet to draw from a garden across the street and are now working on drawing our shoes realistically. They are so talented.

Encourage conversations with your student about what they are learning in art. Chances are you will learn something, too!

Mrs. Taylor—Fourth Grade—Washington

Mrs. Taylor's fourth grade class has been studying the Northeast states of the United States. Each student is working on a poster about one state from this region. When the posters are completed they are displayed in the hallway. In Science, we have been studying rocks, fossils, and the Earth. Our special guest, Mr. Burke, from ESU 11 brought part of his rock collection. He showed us examples of sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks. In math, we have all successfully passed the state test on place value. Now we are busy working on addition and subtraction of whole numbers up to the thousands place. The class also enjoyed their field trip to UNK to learn about healthy living. We had a great time doing physical fitness activities at Foster Field in the morning, and then we had a healthy lunch. We are off to a terrific start this year in fourth grade!