

ENDEVERS

Volume 1, Issue

October 2010

Vision: Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow!

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<http://www.am.dodea.edu/bragg/dever>



And More . . .

VISION: LEARN TODAY, LEAD TOMORROW!

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From the Principal's Desk

Dear Devers' Parents,

We've had a wonderful start to the 2010-2011 school year. Thank you for helping your child be "ready to learn" on a daily basis. Our teachers will tell you that our students have been so focused and engaged that we are able to accomplish a lot of instruction during the few hours that we have our students. We appreciate all that you are doing at home to encourage your child to be an active participant in his or her learning by completing homework daily, reading every night, staying organized for daily work, talking with your child about what he or she is learning each day, and getting plenty of sleep each night.

The Devers' staff is looking forward to a great working relationship with our PTO Board. We are excited about the many activities and events that are being coordinated for our students!

Devers will go through a reevaluation for AdvancED accreditation in the 2011-2012 school year. In order to earn and maintain accreditation, schools must meet the AdvancED standards and engage in a process of continuous school improvement. Through Devers' Continuous School Improvement Process we identify data, information, evidence, and documented results that we use to pinpoint areas of strength and opportunities for improvement. This serves as the foundation of the accreditation process.

Our data has shown us two areas: vocabulary and math problem solving that need attention.

Goal # 1: All students will increase word knowledge.

Essence of the Goal: Word knowledge is a student's ability to apply visual and auditory recognition, phonemic awareness and word meaning.

Goal # 2: All students will improve problem solving skills.

Essence of the Goal: Students will gather, organize, analyze, evaluate and reflect upon information to solve problems in math.

Our Vision for Devers is: Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow. This is what that means to one of our fourth graders.

LEARN TODAY...LEAD TOMORROW

I think it means...
a good education provides
great abilitys toward leadership.

Bailey

Yours in Education,
Miriam Breece
Devers Elementary School
910-907-0204

Have A Great Idea?

Please share your thoughts and great ideas with our Continuous School Improvement Team. We welcome any school wide improvement ideas that move us toward continued student achievement.

RIF - READING IS FUNDAMENTAL

Welcome back to a wonderful school year. Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) is a literacy program that helps to motivate school children to read regularly. It is the nation's oldest and largest children's and family literacy organization. RIF provides money to schools, shelters, hospitals, libraries, child-care centers, and health clinics in order to promote reading. The Devers' RIF program receives 75% of its funding from federal funds and the PTO provides the remaining 25%. Without our PTO, we would not be able to continue this program year after year. Thank you to all who joined the Devers' PTO at Open House. If you have not yet joined, it is not too late. Stop by the office and join! You truly make a difference for our students.

The RIF committee is excited to provide another year of great opportunities for our children to read. This year we will have three RIF book distributions where students receive a free book to take home, keep, and enjoy. Our first book distribution will take place this month and will focus on the theme "Reading Is Dino-mite". Keep watching for upcoming information about this celebration! Thank you so much for your support of the RIF program at Devers

~Remember . . . READ TO SUCCEED IN

-RIF Coordinator

How can you help your child become a better reader? Here is a list of tips:

- Let your child read aloud to you or his/her siblings.
- Let your child choose what they would like to read.
- Ask open-ended questions about what your child reads.
- Provide a comfortable place for your child to read.
- Encourage younger children to join in while you read aloud. Using books with repetition or rhyming words work well with younger children.
- Model reading for your child.
- Take your child to the public library.

Read, read, read.

Tips for Parents

Dear Parents,

Every subject in school flows from reading and children, who read the most, read the best. The only way to get better at reading is to do it. I encourage parents to make a commitment to set aside time to read at home every day for at least 20 minutes. Non-readers benefit from being read aloud to as well. Those 20 minutes of reading will help your child become a lifelong learner.

Reading Support Teacher

Guidance Spot

Now that the school year is in full swing, the Guidance Department wants to welcome our new families and those who are returning.

In our guidance classes for the months of September and October, we will be focusing on deployments, self-esteem; study skills; homework; drug awareness - 'Red Ribbon Week' and health/fitness habits.

Our first flag team of this

school year has been selected and trained. The flag team is made up of fourth graders and a new team is selected each quarter.

A quick reminder, Operation Hero for fourth grade will begin on Monday, September 27. More information regarding this important program will be available in the next issue of the Endevers.

Check this section each month for news regarding the Flag Team, Operation Hero, Terrific Kids, deployment support, and quarterly student awards.



Math Notes

Learning about numbers and their facts is very important to our children and their success in the adult world. Knowing our basic facts and computation skills are the beginning blocks of our math learning. We need that support to build our understanding of math and how numbers work together.

As we grow in our math skills, we realize most of the math in the real world does not occur as numbers by themselves but as problems to solve. For example, in trying to buy a bottle of shampoo we had to compare the cost and find out if the "buy one-get one-half off" was as good a deal as the "store brand cheaper version". Problem solving and **using** math facts makes this process of teaching our children to problem solve even more important.

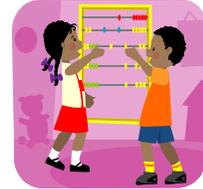
Devers has adopted an age-appropriate method of problem solving. At grades K-2 we use [Read It! Draw It! Solve It!](#) In grades 3-4, we have expanded the process and we call it UPSL.

[Read It! Draw It! Solve It!](#)

[Read It!](#)-Children read the word problem with the "reading comprehension" stage of instruction.

[Draw It!](#)-Children concretely visualize the problem and creatively express its solution.

[Solve It!](#)-Students are asked to write about their solution and their understanding of the math concept.



UPSL

[Understand](#)- [Students](#) read the problem and identify the important facts. They ask themselves, "What do I need to find out?" by looking at the question.

[Plan](#)-Students choose a strategy that will help them solve the problem. It could include drawing a picture, making a list, finding a pattern, or writing a number sentence.

[Solve](#)-The students follow their plan and work out their answer.

[Look back](#)-The students reread the problem to see if the facts match, they answered the question, and the plan is correct. They explain their solution in word sentences.

TIPS FROM THE GYM!

Great

Young

Minds



Acting Responsibly

Trying Our Best

Staying Active!!!!

September/October 2010

"WE ARE THE GYM RATS!!!!!!!!!!!"

Welcome back to a great Physical Education school year here at Devers and we hope that you had a summer full of physical activity. In the elementary grades, the Physical Education program emphasizes the development of fundamental locomotor, non-locomotor, and manipulative skills. The movement framework, (i.e., body, space, effort, and relationship) is also a part of the core content and is the basis for developing, expanding, and refining children's range of motor skills and awareness.

We will start our Jogging Dolphins program with all grade levels soon, so please [dress appropriately](#). Ten year olds (3-4) will be gearing up for the Fitnessgram Fitness Assessment. K-2 students will learn all fitness events and will be actively involved with proper body mechanics. Again, please make sure that your child is wearing [tennis shoes](#) on their Physical Education day.

You are always welcome to come and share the "Devers Physical Education Experience" with your child. You may also visit our school website for more information.

Again, please send your student prepared on their [Physical Education Day](#) dressed for movement and activity.

Yours in Fitness,

Coach B. McMillan
Devers Elementary School
Physical Education Specialist
910-907-0204 ex. 3235





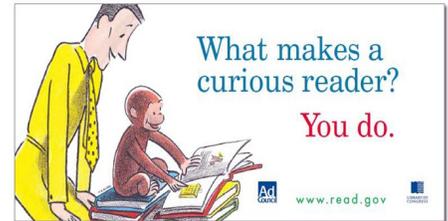
From the Devers' Information Center

The Information Center is the name for our school's library media center. Our mission is to ensure that students are effective users of ideas and information. **Reading continues to be one of the main focuses of school libraries in the 21st Century.** All children will find and enjoy a wealth of reading materials and activities in our Information Center. The Information Center collection has over 17,000 items including an *outstanding* collection of Everybody, Fiction and Non-Fiction books. Since September of 2008, over \$70,000 has been spent for new books and DVD's. All grades have regular class visits to the Information Center. Students are also welcome at any time to return books, check out books and use the IC.

Research shows reading is the number one predictor of student success!

Our circulation policies below are established to support student reading. Last year, students checked out almost 29,000 books and parents checked out over 1200 books.

- Pre-K and K check out 1 book
- 1st & 2nd Grade check out 3 books
- 3rd & 4th check out 4 books + a magazine



Parents are welcome to come in to check out books at any time. Students may select books from any area. **Sometimes books that are too difficult appeal to students.** Sometimes parents will read these to students, sometimes students like to just look at the pictures. Most primary students will quickly tire of getting chapter books that they can't enjoy. I'll introduce them to books that are just too good to miss!

The Information Center has 2 after school clubs:



Read-to-Me Club for First Grade Students with a Parent: The purpose of the club is to build a love of books and reading, to encourage adults and children to enjoy picture books together, and to provide read aloud books to club members. We meet after school for one hour on the last Tuesday of every month. New members are always welcome! The next two meeting dates are Tuesday October 26, 2010 and Tuesday November 30, 2010. Flyers are sent home a week before each meeting.



Toad-ally Awesome Book Review Club: A club for 3rd and 4th grade students that create book reviews about awesome books. Students rotate through club cycles. Each club cycle has 3 meetings on Tuesdays from dismissal time until 3:45 p.m. New students will be selected for each club cycle. Students are given tickets to attend club meetings when they are selected. Once students have learned how to do book reviews, they may continue to create book reviews all year.

Special October Events in the Information Center:

Reading is Dino-Mite Festival: October 5, 2010 (during the school day). Students will receive a free book (RIF), make a dinosaur bookmark and take a reading pledge. PTO helps fund this event.

Reading Counts Family Event: October 12 from dismissal until 5:30p.m. For students in 3rd or 4th grade to do a Reading Counts quiz with a parent. PTO will be selling Ice Cream Sundaes. Look for more information on the flyers coming home.

PTO Book Fair will be held in the Information Center October 18-22, 2010. Flyers will be sent home in early October.



October 2010

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 <i>CSI</i> <i>Non Student Day</i>	9
10	11 <i>Columbus Day</i> <i>No School</i>	12	13	14 <i>Picture Day!</i>	15	16
17	18 <i>Book Fair</i> <i>Begins</i>	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 <i>Vision</i> <i>Screening</i>	27	28 <i>Costume Ball</i>	29 <i>Teacher Work</i> <i>Day</i> <i>Non student</i>	30
31				<i>End of 1st</i> <i>Reporting Period</i> <i>Period</i>		

Costume Ball

October 28, 2010

3:30 –5:30 pm



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Vision: Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow!

**PTO Calendar of Events and Programs to Sponsor or Support
Devers Elementary School Year 2010 – 2011**

October

Student Pictures

Candy Grams

October 12: RIF for the Reading is Dino-mite Festival (all day during the school day)

October 12: Ice Cream Sundae sale for Reading Counts Family Event - Grades 3&4 (serving from dismissal until 5:00pm)

October 18 -22: Fall Book Fair (all day during the school day)

October 19: Book Fair family shopping (from dismissal until 5:30pm)

October 28: Fall Costume Ball

November

Food Drive

Candy Grams

November 23: turkey Trot (last hour of the school day)

December

Giving Tree

Candy Grams

December 13 - 14 RIF for the Polar Reading Festival (all day during the 2 school days)

January

Candy Grams

January 11: Ice Cream Sundae sale for Reading Counts Family Event - Grades 2-4(serving from dismissal until 5:00pm)

January 27: Family Pizza Night

February

Candy Grams

February 14-18: Winter Book Fair (all day during the school day)

February 15: Book Fair family shopping (from dismissal until 5:30pm)

March

Candy Grams

March 7 - 8 RIF for the Read Across America Festival (all day during the 2 school days)

March 22: Ice Cream Sundae sale for Reading Counts Family Event - Grades 2-4(serving from dismissal until 5:00pm)

Terra Nova Celebration Party

April

April 22

Support for Dolphin Day (Field Day)

May

May 2 - 6: Spring Book Fair (all day during the school day)

May 3: Book Fair family shopping (from dismissal until

