

JANUARY/ FEBRUARY
2012



Special Feature

Terra Nova coming soon!

- T Train your brain to focus
- E Eat a good breakfast
- R Rest and relax
- R Re-read & check your answers
- A Answer ALL questions

- N Notice the directions and details
- O On your scrap paper, show work
- V Very important: Use the full time!
- A Always do your best!

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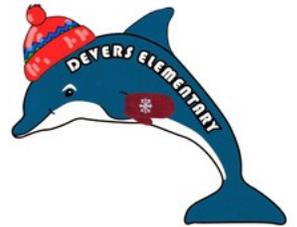
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Endeavors

From the Principals' Desk

Dear Devers Parents,

The students and staff have been busy this year working on content standards so that every child will master grade level expectations. We are seeing so much progress/growth in our students and we are very proud of them. We hope that you continue to read with your child (ren) every night and encourage them to do their best at school.



The end of the second nine weeks will be January 26. Report cards will go home on February 7. We do not have scheduled parent teacher conferences on the calendar. Please do not hesitate to ask your child's teacher for a conference if you have concerns about your child's performance. We expect excellence from our students and teachers if your child's performance has slipped from previous years now is the time to determine a plan of action to help your child get refocused so he/she can be successful academically.

Please continue to volunteer as much as possible because our students love the extra attention they receive!

Yours in Education

Miriam Breece, Principal
Cynthia Ferguson, Assistant Principal



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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 improved student achievement.

Continuous School Improvement (CSI)

In order for Devers to become fully accredited under AdvanED certification we must prove that we are engaging in continuous school improvement. As parents, you play a vital role in Devers' mission - Providing an Exemplary Education that inspires and Prepares All Students for Success in a Dynamic, Global Environment. Devers' efforts are focused on highest student achievement. Your children are what we are all about and they are the core of everything we do.

We believe the key to mission success and highest student achievement is continuous improvement. It's a concept that is central to what we do and forces us to look at what we are doing; examine how we are doing it; evaluate the results; and refine what we do so the needs of all our students are met.



Another key to our mission's success is the community - the community of our teachers and staff; parents; and other stakeholders working together to ensure students receive the best possible education and opportunities we can provide.

Parents are that all-important connection between home and school. By supporting and reinforcing your child's learning at home and in school, you contribute to our mission of promoting highest student achievement for all students.

Improving student performance and achievement doesn't happen by chance. It requires planning, action, and ongoing evaluation. Devers' Community Strategic Plan (CSP) contains the direction for our school. It is the road map for the improvement of student performance and achievement. You may view our plan on our website.

Safety and Security

Children of military families face unique challenges, but worrying about safety and security shouldn't be part of them. In that light, we are doing everything possible to provide a safe learning environment for each and every child at Devers. Our children deserve to feel safe in the classrooms, lunchroom, halls, playgrounds, and buses. We monitor all areas and expect our children to respect each other at all times. We know that children learn best when they feel safe and that caring adults are there to help them. This year, we have implemented the, "Stop Bullying Now," program, which is a priority and helps us all work together to eliminate bullying in our school.

Thanks for your cooperation with our 100% I.D. check and returning the "Visitor's Badges." Everything is working smoothly as adults enter and leave the building. This security check is a vital part of keeping our children safe.

We also practice a number of safety drills to make certain that we can follow a plan of action to ensure the safety of all children. Thank you for your patience if you come to school during our fire drills, tornado drills, or other very important drills, such as our Shelter in Place drill. We try to always be prepared in the event of any kind of crisis, emergency, or disaster.

IMPORTANT: PLEASE UPDATE ANY CHANGES IN **HOME OR WORK PHONE** NUMBERS. ALSO, IN THE EVENT THAT WE CAN'T CONTACT YOU, MAKE SURE WE HAVE **UP-TO-DATE EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS**

GREETINGS FROM GUIDANCE

Our Flag Team has continued to represent the school with honor; that group is rotated every 9 weeks between the 4-5 grade classes. Our Devers Ambassadors (5th grade) hosted some important guests recently, including the school board and USO-sponsored Trevor Romain crew. We are supporting monthly Terrific Kids awards, for all classes; we conduct a classroom-based brief ceremony for the lower grades; they love it! The next two Devers Awards Assemblies (3-5 grades) will be on February 9 (1:30) and April 19 (1:30), and we are, as a school, focused on good work habits. Along with that, guidance lessons from about mid January to beginning March will be focused on positive work habits that aid in studying, doing homework, and taking tests. Our system-wide testing (Terra Nova) will be conducted from March 12-15; there will be some parent information and workshops offered to explain more about this event. Meanwhile, please review and utilize Devers' test taking tips (below) with your child; teachers will be doing the same.

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Hello Devers Family,

I hope the new year finds everyone well. I am happy to be returning to Devers for the second semester. I will be continuing deployment and reunification lunch groups with children. These groups can help children work through the many issues related to deployment and reunification. If your family either currently has a deployed or recently deployed member and your child is not attending this group please let us know so we can get them connected to a group. Please feel free to ask me if you have any questions 910-988-7499.

Also, I am happy to provide some times where parents are able to come and informally talk with other parents and myself. There is no specific agenda just a time to catch up with each other and chat. These times are Tuesday mornings from 8:45-9:45 am and Thursday afternoons from 1:45-2:45 pm. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Susan Anderson
Military Family Life Consultant



Exceptional Family Member Program

TUTORING PROGRAM

The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) has partnered with Methodist University to provide FREE tutoring to our exceptional Family members. The purpose of the EFMP tutoring program is to provide learning enrichment, identify and provide advocacy for Families, and help build a bridge between the tutor, parent and school.

We will provide individualized assistance in multiple subject areas.



FOR: EFMP FAMILY MEMBERS ENROLLED FOR
EDUCATION ~ KINDERGARTEN-12TH GRADE WITH
CURRENT IEP

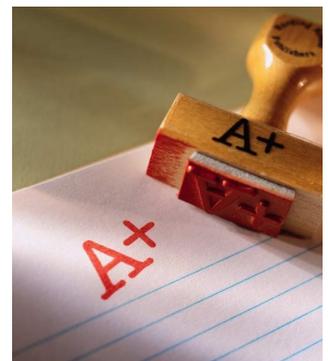
Weekly Tutoring

LOCATION: Irwin Intermediate School

To be eligible for the FREE tutoring program, the below criteria must be completed.

- Students must be enrolled in EFMP for education
- Have a current IEP and provide a copy
- Complete application
- Sign a release of information
- Parents must attend orientation
- Parents must attend initial meeting with tutor to discuss goals
- Parents provide transportation

Upon acceptance into the tutoring program, parents will be provided additional information. (Space is limited)



For more information call
(910) 907-3405
or (910) 396-8682



Learn Today ~ Lead Tomorrow!



January 2012



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 New Year's Day	2 NO SCHOOL	3 Read to Me Club 2:30-4:00 pm! Back to School!	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 MCEC Parent Work- shop Family Reading Counts Gr. 1-5 3:00-5:00 pm	11	12	13 CSI No SCHOOL for students	14
15	16 MLK Day No School	17 Young Authors' Workshop, Gr. 2-3 2:30-4:00 pm	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Toad-ally Awesome Book Re- view Club 3-5, 2:30-4:00 pm	25	26 End of 2nd Reporting Period	27	28
29	30	31 Toad-ally Awesome Book Re- view Club, 3-5 2:30-4:00 pm	Winter			



February 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 NO School Teacher Workday	4
5	6	7 Report Cards Go Home Read to Me Club 1st grade (IC) 2:30-4pm	8	9 3-5th Grade Awards Ceremony 1:30 pm	10	11
12	13	14 Young Authors' Work- shop, (IC) 2:30-4:00 pm Happy Valentine's	15 PE District Meeting	16	17	18
19	20 NO School President's Day!	21 Fire Safety Training Gr 3-5 All Day Toad-ally Awesome Book Review Club 2:30-4pm 2:30-4:00 pm	22	23 Fire Safety Training Smokehouse in Bus Parking Area All Day Event	24 Pre-K - 2nd	25
26	27 Reading Festival Pre-K-5 , ALL DAY	28 Reading Festival to in- clude RIF Pre-K - 5, ALL DAY				