



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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Endevers

From The Principals' Desk

Dear Devers Parents,

Our third, fourth and fifth grade students will be taking the Terra Nova on March 12. This test will give us a snapshot of how our children are performing as compared to other students across the country. In order for our students to do well and meet high grade level expectations it starts as soon as students enter kindergarten. All of our teachers are working very hard to ensure that all students are learning at their appropriate level. All of our teachers at Devers collaborate and plan instruction for all levels of learners.

Please continue to take the time to meet with your child's teacher, on a regular basis, so that you stay informed about his or her progress. To ensure that your child grows academically it has to be a team effort and partnership.

Yours in education,
Miriam Breece, Principal



Continuous School Improvement (CSI)

As we embrace the accreditation process we are trying to move Devers to a culture of excellence where we are never satisfied with good but always striving for greatness. The accreditation process engages the entire community in a continuous process of self-evaluation, reflection, and improvement. We would like to know what it is you like about Devers, anything positive that we do that supports student achievement. Please write it in the space provided and tear it off and send it in to the front office. We would love to know what you think!

Parent Points

(What we love about Devers)



Thank
you
Partners



Kraft

Devers Elementary School and the Military Child Education Coalition partner to bring parents relevant information for their child's education. MCEC representatives present each month in a workshop called "Parent to Parent." A sampling of the topics includes: Preparing Your Child for Reading Success; Successful Parent/Teacher Conferences; Resiliency & Deployment; and Test-taking/Terra Nova for our child's 3rd-5th grade students. MCEC's goal through Parent to Parent is to help empower parents to be their child's best advocate. Devers Elementary school welcomes MCEC and their mission, as we partner to bring continuity between school and home for our students.



Devers Elementary maintains a partnership with the Ft. Bragg commissary and associated Kraft representatives. Devers Elementary is dedicated to fulfilling DODEA educational goals and mandates, to include assessment via Terra Nova testing. Optimal performance in school and testing conditions requires adequate sleep and nutrition, and the Ft. Bragg Commissary and Kraft representatives support this by providing healthy snacks and drinks to our students prior to assessment. Devers Elementary achievement outcomes are solid and above average, and we feel such partnerships contribute to ongoing excellence here at Devers. In return, Devers Elementary students present, perform and support the community mission of the Ft. Bragg Commissary. This Spring, the Devers Dancers will be doing a singing/dancing show at the commissary for their military and family customers.

The Environmental Management Branch at Fort Bragg has been a wonderful partner with Devers Elementary. They have provided us with native trees to plant, assisted us with our school garden in care and sustaining our plants, and provided us with mulched topsoil. Mindy Love-Stanley and Su Ann Medford have talked to classes and small groups about the local ecosystem and the importance of maintaining our native plants for the support of wildlife. They have also involved our school in numerous Arbor Day activities. We are very proud to have them as one of partners.



Foreign Language in the Elementary Schools

Devers has incorporated the DoDEA Foreign language Program (FLES) into the curriculum. The purpose is driven by the belief that the study of foreign languages builds global cultural awareness and enhances communication among cultures. In addition the study of languages increases cognitive abilities enriches life experiences and meets the ever-increasing demands in today's interdependent global community.



According to the five goals of the National Standards of Foreign Language Learning, students will develop communication skills, gain knowledge of other cultures, make connections with other disciplines, develop insight into language and culture through comparisons, and participate in multi-lingual communities both at home and around the world.

Nuevo iBravo, bravo! is the research-based program used to teach students Spanish. Research has shown that learning a second language has a positive impact on academic achievement. Students of foreign language tend to score higher on standard tests. (ERIC 1992 and SAT 2003) In addition, learning another language can enhance knowledge of English structure and vocabulary, literacy, and academic language arts skills (Curtain and Dahlberg, 2004). The program has been designed to effectively develop Spanish skills through natural communication, effective grouping strategies, songs, games, reading and role play.

Ms. Ingrid Brau and Ms. María González are the two motivated teachers who facilitate the program. They go above and beyond to make the language learning process enjoyable, interactive, involving classroom participation and total physical response like clapping, dancing, to connect meaning into language. They encourage students to initiate and respond to greetings, expand basic oral and reading vocabulary skills, recite, rhyme, sing, make crafts and much more. Technology is also integrated in the curriculum. The Smart Board interactive white board is used to support language acquisition. Computers, Elmo's, and In-focus projectors are used to enhance the lessons. Spanish Web sites are included in the school's Cyber Library for the student's enjoyment at home.



The Media Center has books in Spanish that the students can check out. The class sizes average about 20 students and receive instruction twice a week for 45 minutes. The student's progress is tracked through assessments, and the scores show that the material is being mastered. The students are eager to learn. Students can comprehend and produce vocabulary related to everyday objects or topics and can imitate modeled words and phrases. They also exhibit an expanded vocabulary.



After School Clubs

The **21st Century Club** is an afterschool club for 5th graders to learn more about creative technology. Students will be exposed to more advanced technology than typically used in the everyday classroom. The club will begin meeting every Thursday, starting on March 15, 2012. Students will report to the computer lab promptly after school dismisses and will need a parent or guardian to pick them up at 3:30 pm.



DEVERS DANCERS

Want to learn more about music and have more performance opportunities? Then The Devers Dancers is the club for you! Boys and girls who join this after school club meet every Tuesday from 2:45 - 4:00 to rehearse singing and dancing, learn about performance etiquette, and work together to learn more about music. The students help choreograph dances in order to prepare for performances in the school and various places on Fort Bragg throughout the school year. Currently, The Devers Dancers are preparing to perform at the Terra Nova Pep Rally, the Commissary, and the Volunteer Tea at Devers Elementary School. These should be fun and exciting shows so keep your eyes open for performance dates!

These events are held right after school in our Information Center

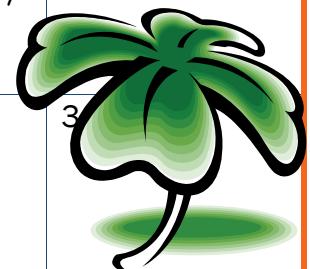
Special
Events in
the
Information
Center

- Tuesday March 6 - Read To Me Club - open to any first grader with a parent
 - Tuesday March 13 - Toad-ally Awesome Book Review Club (membership by application - grades 3-5)
 - Tuesday March 20 - Toad-ally Awesome Book Review Club (membership by application - grades 3-5)
 - Tuesday March 27 - Reading Counts Family Event - look for the flyer coming home with more information
 - Tuesday April 3 - Read To Me Club - open to any first grader with a parent
 - Tuesday April 17 - Toad-ally Awesome Book Review Club (membership by application - grades 3-5)
 - Tuesday April 24 - Toad-ally Awesome Book Review Club (membership by application - grades 3-5)
- Young Authors Books are due to the Information Center by Wednesday April 4, 2012



M A R C H 2 0 1 2

S U N	M O N	T U E	W E D	T H U	F R I	S A T
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Read-to-Me Club IC 2:30-4:00 pm	7 Study Trip Symphony 4-5th 10:00 am	8 Parent Terra Nova 9:00am & 3:00pm Parent Workday Terra Nova Pep Rally 1:45 pm	9 Terra Nova Practice Test	10
11	12 Terra Nova Testing Grades 3-5	13 Toad-ally Awesome Book Review Club Grades 3-5 2:30-4:00 pm	14	15 21st Century Club 2:30-3:30 pm	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Terra Nova Celebration! 1:45pm 21st Century club 2:30-3:30 pm	23 No School Teacher Workday	24
25	26	27 Reading Counts Grades 1-5 IC 3:00-5:00 pm	28	29 Kindergarten Program 1:45 pm 21st Century Club 2:30-3:30 pm	30	31



Learn Today ~ Lead Tomorrow



APRIL 2012

S U N	M O N	T U E	W E D	T H U	F R I	S A T
1	2	3 Read-to-Me Club 1st grade IC 2:30-4:00 pm	4 K-2 Puppet Show Pre-K Study Trip	5 21st Century Club 2:30-3:30 pm	6 No School Teacher Workday	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Nutritionist Visit	17	18 Report Cards Home	19 Awards Ceremony 1:45 pm Spring Pictures (outside) 21st Century Club 2:30-3:30 pm	20	21
22	23 Accreditation Visit	24 Toad-ally Awesome Book Review Club Grades 3-5 IC 2:30-4:00 pm	25 No School Pre-K	26 21st Century Club 2:30-3:30 pm No School Pre-K	27 No School Parent Teacher Conferences	28
29	30					A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner features the word "Spring" in a green, cursive font. Below the text is a stylized yellow flower with green leaves.