

ENDEVERS

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910-907-0204

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

Strong Home/School Partnership

Literacy & Math Instructional Focus

Safe and Orderly Environment

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Devers Parents,

Our third and fourth grade students will be taking the Terra Nova in the second week of March. This test will give us a snapshot of how our children are performing at third and fourth grade as compared to other students across the country. In order for our students to do well and meet grade level expectations at the end of third and fourth grade, 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. They are planning reading instruction for all levels of learners. Grade level teams plan together weekly to develop lessons for our students. With this approach, all students should be taught at a level to challenge them and move them forward with peers who are performing at the same or similar reading level. This approach to teaching literacy should in no way water down the curriculum for higher achievers or be overly challenging for our students who are at risk academically. Teachers are responsible for planning appropriate level instructional activities for each level of learners.

On February 4 at 12:30, we will have a parent workshop presented by the Military Child Education Coalition: GLU. This stands for growing, learning and understanding. We think you will enjoy this workshop as well as learn ways to enhance your child's education. Please try to come!

Our Scholastic Book Fair is coming up the week of February 23. The PTO will be sending home information. Please plan to attend or send money for your children to shop.

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

Dr. Kim McBroom, Assistant Principal

PTO News

Hi Everyone,

I am pleased to tell all of you that we are doing very well this year. I ask that you please volunteer in the classrooms and anywhere else in the school that you can. I want to remind everyone to please remember our pizza night at CiCi's Pizza the first Friday of every month.

In February, we have a few things coming up. We have the Book Fair on the 23rd. Our first family night activity will be a Red Carpet Spectacular. We will be giving more details about that event later. As always, thank you for all your help.

Thank you from your PTO President

Devers Elementary
One Varsity Dr.
Fort Bragg, NC 28307

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Upcoming Events

- ☉ 2nd—Ground Hog Day
- ☉ 4th—Parent to Parent
- ☉ 10th—Report Cards sent home
- ☉ 11th—4th Grade takes the NAEP
- ☉ 16th—Presidents Day, School Closed
- ☉ 23rd—Scholastic Book Fair

Reminders for Parents:

There are a few students who are arriving to school too early. There is no adult on duty until 8:00 a.m.

Children who plan to have breakfast at school may arrive no earlier than 8:00 a.m. All other children may arrive at 8:10 a.m.

Regular dismissal is at 2:40 p.m. Early dismissal is every Wednesday at 1:35 p.m. Parents, please make sure you pick your children up on time.

SNOW!!!!

It was great to see all the snow. Make sure you watch the **Snow** slide show located on the Devers homepage. It is *COOL !!!*



<http://www.am.dodea.edu/bragg/Devers/default.htm>

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From the Devers Information Center

Visit our Cyber Library from your home computer on the Devers home page at

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

It is the large link in the center of the page. The Cyber Library is a collaborative effort between the Information Specialist and our Educational Technology Facilitator.

This month, as classes visit the Information Center, I will introduce students to the Magazine page of the Cyber Library. There are lots of great sites here for children of all ages.

Magazines

The links on this page are non-DODEA web sites. These links do not constitute a DODEA endorsement.

Boy's Life	Time for Kids	National Geographic for Kids	Sports Illustrated for Kids
Ranger Rick	2nd Grade Scholastic News	Weekly Reader for Kids	



February is Library Lovers Month

During February, students in all classes are encouraged to "paint" a picture of their favorite book character using Pixie2—a creativity software program that was introduced to all students in January. Look for some samples in next month's newsletter! All completed pictures will be showcased in a virtual Book Character Parade on the computer by the front door of the IC.

Parents are welcome in the Information Center any time to check out books!

We are also always looking for parent volunteers. Please stop by if you have a morning or afternoon free when you could come in to help us.



The Read-To-Me Club will have its next meeting on Tuesday February 3, 2009 in the Information Center. We will feature books about love and families. Students will decorate a heart shaped cookie in honor of Library Lovers Month.

This is a club for first grade students with an accompanying adult. Students may not come to a club meeting without an accompanying adult. Flyers with tickets for the club are sent home the week before the club meets. Please be sure to send in a note to the teacher of any older or younger siblings that will meet you at the club meeting. New members are welcome anytime!



The Read-To-Me, Too Club will have its next meeting on Tuesday February 10, 2009 in the Information Center. We will feature books about birds and students will make a bird feeder to take home.

This is a club for second grade students with an accompanying adult.

Students may not come to a club meeting without an accompanying adult. Flyers with tickets for the club are sent home the week before the club meets. Please be sure to send in a note to the teacher of any older or younger siblings that will meet you at the club meeting. New members are welcome anytime!

Your,
Information Specialist
and
Information Center Tech

Reading Is Fundamental in 2009

It's on the way . . . Our second RIF book distribution is right around the corner! It will take place during the first week of March, and it will go along with our celebration of Dr. Seuss birthday and NEA's Read Across America. During the distribution, students will be asked to repeat the following reader's oath. This oath was written by Debra Angstead of Missouri-NEA. We hope to use this celebration as a way of encouraging our students to be life-long readers. Our RIF Parent Volunteer will soon be contacting parents to assist with the

March distribution. If you would like to help, please call and speak to the RIF Coordinator or the RIF Parent Volunteer at Devers (910-907-0204).

~Remember . . . READ TO SUCCEED IN 2009~ -RIF Coordinator

Reader's Oath

I promise to read
Each day and each night.
I know it's the key
To growing up right.
I'll read to myself,
I'll read to a crowd.
It makes no difference

If silent or loud.

I'll read at my desk,
At home and at school,
On my bean bag or bed,
By the fire or pool.

Each book that I read
Puts smarts in my head,
'Cause brains grow more thoughts
The more they are fed.

So I take this oath
To make reading my way
Of feeding my brain
What it needs every day.

~Debra Angstead, Missouri-NEA

Reading Resource

Reading Tips for Parents of Second Graders

By: Reading Rockets

Find ways to read, write, and tell stories together with your child. Always applaud your young reader and beginning story writer! The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week. See what works best for your child.

Tell family tales

Children love to hear stories about their family. Talk about a funny thing that happened when you were young.

Create a writing toolbox

Fill a box with drawing and writing materials. Find opportunities for your child to write, such as the shopping list, thank you notes, or birthday cards.

Be your child's #1 fan

Ask your child to read aloud what he or she has written for school. Be an enthusiastic listener.

One more time with feeling

When your child has sounded out an unfamiliar word, have him or her re-read that sentence. Often kids are so busy figuring out a word they lose the meaning of what they've just read.

Invite an author to class

Ask an author to talk to your child's class about the writing process. Young children often think they aren't smart enough if they can't sit down and write a perfect story on the first try.

Create a book together

Fold pieces of paper in half and staple them to make a book. Ask your child to write sentences on each page and add his or her own illustrations.

Do storytelling on the go

Take turns adding to a story the two of you make up while riding in a car or bus. Try making the story funny or spooky.

Point out the relationship between words

Explain how related words have similar spellings and meanings. Show how a word like knowledge, for example, relates to a word like know.

Use a writing checklist

Have your child create a writing checklist with reminders such as, "Do all of my sentences start with a capital? Yes/No."

Quick, quick

Use new words your child has learned in lively flash card or computer drills. Sometimes these help kids automatically recognize and read words, especially those that are used frequently.

Your Devers Reading Specialist

Math Notes

Did you know that 'home' is one of the most important places for your child to explore and talk about math? When you incorporate math activities and language in your everyday activities, you provide a safe environment for your child to develop the confidence to take risks to try new things.

Encourage your child to be a good problem solver by including him or her in routine activities that involve math such as: measuring, weighing, and figuring costs or comparing prices of things to purchase. Help your child

learn to communicate mathematically by asking him/her to explain what must be done to solve a math problem or how the answer was found. Don't just accept the answer, ask for justification.

Remember that problems can be solved in different ways. Also, realize that wrong answers sometimes can be useful. When you go over your child's homework, if there is an incorrect answer, ask your child to explain how that answer was found. The practice in talking through the problem, explaining the reasoning and looking back at the work

often provides the child the opportunity to discover mistakes and deepen the mathematical understanding.

Here's a math idea: What coins do I have in my hand? There are 6 coins and they equal 30 cents? (Is there more than one solution? Can your child prove the answer is correct? What other challenges with coins could you use?)

Remember to make math a part of your every day life! Devers Math Specialist



Valentine's Day

History of chocolate

A lot of chocolate is eaten during Valentine's Day. Do you know that before chocolate was a sweet candy, it was a spicy drink. The first people known to have made chocolate were the ancient cultures of Mexico and Central America. These people, including the Maya and the Aztec, mixed ground ca-

El día de San Valentín

cao seeds with various seasonings to make a spicy, frothy drink. Later, the Spanish conquistadors brought the seeds back home to Spain where new recipes were created. The drink's popularity spread throughout Europe.

In 1609, chocolate is lauded in literature. The first book devoted entirely to chocolate "Libro en el cual se trata del chocolate," came from Mex-



ico. In 1765, chocolate was introduced to the U.S. when Irish chocolate maker, John Hanan, imported cocoa beans from the West Indies into Dorchester, Massachusetts. With the help of Dr. James Baker, they developed a process to refine the cocoa beans. Soon after, the pair built America's first chocolate mill. By 1780, the mill was making the famous Baker's chocolate. ~ Hola



Parents, the following article is something to think about.

Fit Kids Get Better Grades

As childhood obesity rates soar and kids spend more time sitting in front of their computers than playing outdoors, diabetes and other weight-related illnesses are on the rise. But physical health isn't the only thing at stake.

According to a study by the California Department of Education, kids' fitness levels also may affect their performance in school. The study found

Notes from the Gym!

that increased amounts of physical fitness translated into higher academic achievement at each of the three grade levels measured. The benefits were most evident in math scores. Girls, particularly those at higher fitness levels, demonstrated greater achievement than boys. Another study, published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, also found that increased physical activity had a positive effect on academic performance.

Previous research has led doctors to

surmise that exercise may encourage new brain-cell growth. A workout for your body is also a workout for your mind. Help kids get in shape, and they may bring home higher test scores and better grades.

Get Fit Now
By Michael O'Shea
Parade Magazine
January, 2009

Yours in fitness, The Gym Rats! Physical Education Specialists



ART CORNER



In the art classroom, kindergarten through third grade classes are starting to glaze their hand built pottery pieces.

Kindergarten and first grade have made some beautiful pinch pots.

The second and third grade classes have made some beautiful coil pots.

Fourth grade will begin working on their drupe bowls shortly.

I am very proud of our students and the work they are doing in the art classroom.

Thank you, Devers Art



Notes from the Music Class



Greetings from the music room at Devers Elementary!

This is an update of performance schedules for the spring. Letters will be sent home to parents to inform them of their child's performance. Kindergarten-ers will be performing a patriotic concert in March.

Third grade students are preparing spring songs. Be prepared for a grand finale with instruments!

Fourth grade will be starting recorders this month, and will have a recorder issued to them. The students will be putting on a recorder concert at May's PTO meeting.

Parents, please continue to encourage your students to do their best in music! Thank-you!

Music is everywhere! Enjoy it!

Your Music class

Guidance Spot

Happy New year from the Guidance Department! And snow, too! We are off to a great start!

The month of February will be very busy! We are starting off with Counselor's Week, February 2-6, and our special thanks to **all** for your support and help! On Wednesday, February 4, 2009, we will be hosting our Parent to Parent Workshop on the topic of 'GLU' (Growing, Learning, & Understanding). This meeting will be from 12:30-1:30 in the computer lab. Flyers will be sent home with an RSVP that can be returned with your student. We also

continue to offer after school sessions of Operation Hero, a YMCA-based program, for grades two through four.

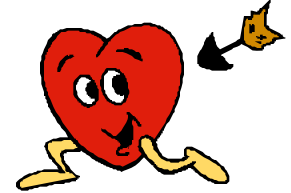
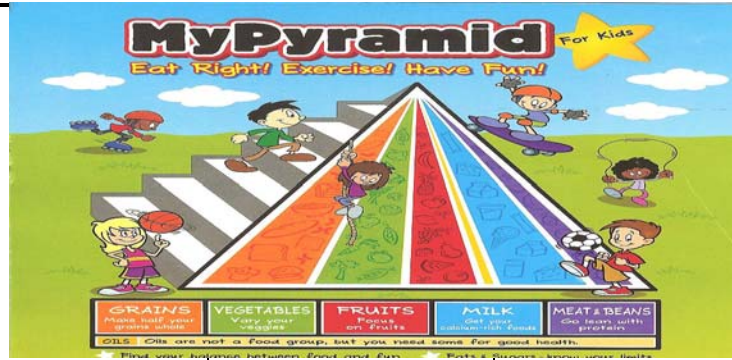
Every two years, we participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), commonly known as the Nation's Report Card. It is sponsored by the US Department of Education and is designed to test what students know and can do in subjects commonly taught in school. Our NAEP testing will be on February 11, 2009 from 9:00 to 10:30, and is only for students in 4th Grade.

In March, we will conduct the Terra Nova, standardized testing for grades 3

and 4. The test dates for Devers will be March 9 - 13. We will have more information on the Terra Nova to follow. We will be focusing on test taking and study skills in our Guidance lessons. Therefore, important tips to remember any time of the year, but especially for February and March are:

PLEASE ATTEND AND BE ON TIME, EAT A GOOD BREAKFAST, AND GET A GOOD NIGHTS SLEEP!

Here's to GREAT TEST RESULTS! Remember we are always here to help you at Devers Elementary!



<p>2/2 B: Ham Biscuit w/ Oatmeal or Cereal Orange Wedges COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Pepperoni Pizza or Sloppy Joe CHOOSE TWC Green Beans Tossed Salad Orange Wedges Applesauce</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/3 B: Grilled Cheese Sandwich or Cereal Applesauce COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Turkey Rice Soup w/ Grilled Cheese Sandwich or Cheeseburger CHOOSE TWC Baked Beans Sweet Potatoes Fluff Baked Apples Sliced Peaches</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/4 B: Scramble Eggs w/ Grits or Cereal Choice of Juice COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Spaghetti w/ French Bread or Chicken Sandwich CHOOSE TWC Garden Peas Corn on Cob Orange Wedges Shredded Lettuce w/Diced Tomatoes</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/5 B: Pancake n Sausage or Cereal Sliced Peaches COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Bar-B-Que Chicken w/Wheat Roll or Hotdog w/Chili CHOOSE TWC Creamed Potatoes Green Beans Steamed Cabbage Congealed Fruit Salad</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/6 B: Breakfast Pizza or Cereal Applesauce COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Fish Portion w/ CornBread or Tacos CHOOSE TWC Steamed Corn Shredded Lettuce w/ Diced Tomatoes Coleslaw Fruit Cup</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>
<p>2/9 B: Scramble Eggs w/ Grits or Cereal Choice of Juice Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Chicken Tenders w/Roll or Baked Potato w/Meat & Cheese Sauce w/ Cinnamon Roll CHOOSE TWC Green Beans Steamed Broccoli Orange Wedges Fruit Cup</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/10 B: French Toast Sticks w/Syrup or Cereal Applesauce Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Spaghetti w/ French Bread or Cheeseburger CHOOSE TWC Oven Baked Fries Lima Beans Sliced Peaches Tossed Salad</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/11 B: Pancake N' Sausage or Cereal Sliced Peaches Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Turkey Pastry w/Roll or Hotdog w/Chili CHOOSE TWC Sweet Potato Fluff Baked Apples Orange Wedges Coleslaw</p> <p>Dessert: Yellow Cake w/ Icing CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/12 B: Ham Biscuit w/ Oatmeal or Cereal Orange Wedges Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Baked Chicken w/Roll or Corndog CHOOSE TWC Potato Salad Baked Beans Congealed Fruit Salad Sliced Peaches</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/13 B: Breakfast Pizza or Cereal Fruit Cup Toast (1) w/Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Chicken Sandwich or Taco Salad w/Chips CHOOSE TWC Pinto Beans Diced Tomatoes Applesauce Fruit Cup</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>
<p>2/16 HAPPY PRESIDENTS' DAY President's Day</p> <p>Holiday</p>	<p>2/17 B: Breakfast Pizza or Cereal Sliced Peaches Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Pizza or Turkey Ham & Cheese Sandwich CHOOSE TWC Garden Peas Tossed Salad Fruit Cup Sliced Peaches</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/18 B: Pancake N' Sausage or Cereal Applesauce Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Chicken Tenders w/Roll or Sloppy Joe CHOOSE TWC Green Beans Boiled Potatoes Raw Veggies Applesauce</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/19 B: Scramble Eggs w/ Grits or Cereal Choice of Juice Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Corndog or Bar-B-Que Chicken w/Wheat Roll CHOOSE TWC Creamed Potatoes Lima Beans Coleslaw Orange Wedges</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/20 B: French Toast Sticks w/Syrup or Cereal Orange Wedges Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Taco Salad w/Chips or Cheeseburger CHOOSE TWC Oven Baked Fries Steamed Corn Diced Tomatoes Sliced Peaches</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>
<p>2/23 B: Scramble Eggs and Grits or Cereal Sliced Peaches Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Pizza or Sub Sandwich CHOOSE TWC Corn on Cob Green Beans Tossed Salad Fruit Cup</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/24 B: Grilled Cheese Sandwich or Cereal Applesauce Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Corndog or Vegetable Meat Soup w/ Grilled Cheese Sandwich CHOOSE TWC Candied Yams Lima Beans Raw Veggies Orange Wedges</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/25 Trix Strawberry Banana Yogurt or Cereal Orange Wedges Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Spaghetti w/ French Bread or Chicken Sandwich CHOOSE TWC Garden Peas Tossed Salad Applesauce Congealed Fruit Salad</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/26 B: Breakfast Pizza or Cereal Fruit Cup Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Baked Chicken w/ Wheat Roll or Hotdog w/Chili CHOOSE TWC Creamed Potatoes Pinto Beans Orange Wedges Coleslaw</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>	<p>2/27 B: Scramble Eggs w/ Grits or Cereal Orange Juice Toast (1) w/ Jelly COLD MILK L: CHOOSE ONE</p> <p>Fish Portion w/ CornBread or Cheeseburger CHOOSE TWC Oven Baked Fries Lettuce w/ tomato and Pickle Chips Peaches Carrot Cabbage Coleslaw</p> <p>CHOOSE ONE COLD MIL</p>

THIRD CHOICE AVAILABLE - (Students & Teachers) - All Schools will offer Salad Every day

MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTIFICATION

*Fresh Fruit Choices - Whole Pieces of Fruit are available Every day as Fruit/Vegetable Choice.

STUDENTS BREAKFAST COST: FULL PAY: PK - 9 \$1.00; REDUCED: PK - 9 \$0.30; FREE: PK - 9 \$0.00

STUDENTS LUNCH COST: FULL PAY: PK - 9 \$2.00 REDUCED: PK - 9 \$0.40; FREE: PK - 9 \$0.00