



Check out "What's Happening" on the Walker Web site:
<http://www.am.dodea.edu/knox/walker/index.htm>

Walker Intermediate School

Donald Ratchford, Principal
Rita French, Counselor

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December Word
of the Month
Compassion

School Counselor

Mrs. French

COMPASSION DECEMBER WORD OF THE MONTH

Compassion: To be caring about other people by treating them with kindness.
Vs. Cold-hearted, uncaring, unconcerned with the feelings or needs of others.

Bullies are a Pain in the Brain: As part of the school counseling program, all Walker students are participating in 6 week course *Bullies are a Pain in the Brain*. Curriculum standards for Academic, Personal/Social and Career Development guide the course to maximize each student's ability to learn and to help them respect self and others. Techniques that help students deal with anger, accept others, and react positively to negative situations will be addressed. For more information on this program please contact Mrs. French, school counselor.

Walker School's Annual Food Drive, Walker students and staff collected 2370 food items and donated them to American Red Cross on Fort Knox. This service project was sponsored by Walker Student Leaders. Parents, as always, thank you for your positive support in our School's activities.

Music Winter Concert

Winter Concert – Monday, December 15th, 4:00 p.m.

Participating students will stay after school for a rehearsal before the concert's beginning at 4:00. All parents are welcome to come join in the fun.

Math Facilitator

Mrs. Hurt

Students gather, refine, and demonstrate mathematical ideas in a variety of ways. Some students are intuitive learners who can do math mentally, others are visual learners who benefit from seeing ideas, and others gain from hands-on experiences. Students need opportunities, at home and at school, to see, hear, and do problem solving in a way that makes sense to them.

Problem solving strategies can be taught (such as understand, plan, solve, check and reflect). However, it is not about students solving a problem with a specific strategy that the teacher had in mind. The focus should be on the students solving problems with strategies that makes sense and gets them to a solution.

Help us to motivate and engage our students by working with them each week on the Problem of the Week!

Upcoming Dates

Dec 15
Winter Music Concert
4:00 p.m.

Dec 19 - No School
Teacher Workday

Dec 22-Jan 2
Winter Break

Jan 5
Students Return

Jan 19
Holiday - M. L. King Day

Feb 13
No School - Teacher
Professional Development

Feb 16
Holiday - President's Day

March 30 - April 3
Spring Break

April 6
Students and Staff Return

May 1
No School

May 29
Last Day for Students

Technology

Mrs. Musgrave

Parents,

We are experiencing technical difficulties with our Grade Speed Parent Portal. There is NO problem with viewing of student grades at this time. However, the option for you to use the portal to send a note to teachers is not working. It has been down for some time without our being aware of any problem. We have started investigating the problem. Until this software glitch has been remedied, please contact teachers by telephone or by email.

All email addresses are on the Walker web site. <http://www.am.dodea.edu/knox/walker/classes/classpages.htm> is the link for the class pages. By clicking on the grade level pages, you will find a listing of email addresses listed by homeroom numbers. If you have other difficulties, please contact me.

Dee Anna Musgrave
Walker Educational Technologist
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502.624.7835

NSC's Mobile Discovery Outreach Center

Ms. Noble

THE VAN IS COMING!

Walker students have a treat to look forward to after returning to school in January from Winter Break. The NSC's Mobile Discovery Outreach Center will be here on January 6, 2009. The Mobile Discovery Center is housed in an 18-wheeler that travels across the country presenting programs that advocate the need for students to master science and math concepts in order to assure their future academic and career success. The program offers students exciting lessons, where they are actively involved. The outreach program is provided by the National Science Center and the United States Army.

Walker's School Improvement Team

Ms. Noble

To become part of Walker's School Improvement Team, we need your great ideas and feedback to make Walker School an excellent place for your child. Please, if you are interested in helping contact Cynthia Noble, 624-7835.

Walker School's Mission

Walker Intermediate School, partnering with parents and the military community, empowers each student to succeed now and in the future.

Beliefs:

- Working together: school, home, and military community
- Actively engaged in a challenging curriculum
- Life-long learners
- Kind, respectful, trusting, and a safe school environment
- Empowering students to succeed in the global society
- Reaching high individual goals and academic standards

Vision:

We choose to succeed!

Sixth Grade

The 6th grade team wishes all students and their families a very safe and happy holiday break. This is an excellent time to get a head start on reading for the 3rd quarter. Challenge your child to read more books than you over the winter break. If you are visiting relatives or talking to them on the phone, have your child ask the person what book they remember liking in 6th grade. Encourage your child to read the book and find out why it was so well liked. Practice multiplication facts and compete for speed and accuracy as a family game. Most of all enjoy this time!

The New Year is a time for many resolutions to get organized or to change situations. Please encourage your child to return to school with a positive attitude that he or she will have a wonderful 2009 in 6th grade. Spend some time replenishing and organizing school supplies so your child will have all the materials needed for a successful re-start. The 6th grade teachers appreciate all of the parent support in 2008 and we will work to make 2009 one of the best years for your child ever.

Fifth Grade

When your children return to school in January, they will almost be 6th graders ! Yet they have SO much more to learn the last half of the 5th grade year. There is a problem with attendance. When your child is absent he/she has missed 6 hours of instructional time which can't be made up. Some of our students have excessive absences, tardies, and/or leave early. Our active teaching does not end until 3:05P.M. Take this into consideration when making plans. The children need to read 2 chapter books (on their lexile level) over the 17 day break. Thank you for showing up promptly for conferences. Enjoy the long holiday break.

Fourth Grade

The Fourth Grade Teaching Team would like to wish all of our families a joyous holiday season and a happy New Year!! Keep in mind as you go out and do your holiday shopping, many educational games, books, watches and flashcards make great stocking stuffers that encourage your child to love learning. Also, it is important that you take inventory of your child's supplies as we approach the second half of the school year. Students may need pencils, crayons, or glue. Take advantage of your break time with your child to get ahead on memorizing some of those basic math facts, read a great book together and really talk to your child.

News From Art

In **SIXTH GRADE ART CLASS**, we're learning a lot! Just recently we finished a lesson on classical architecture when tied in with our Social Studies history books. We also were working on the Notre Dame and learning how to draw a facade, or the front of the building. Currently, we're working and drawing flowers that tie in with Mrs. Croucher's Science Class. **Kristen Johnson**

In our **FIFTH GRADE ART CLASS**, we learned the elements of design. We did house drawings, drew nursery rhymes; now we are working on Picasso or Matisse. For Picasso we learned that Cubism was the most important and influential movement in modern art. **Bianca Sanchez**

In **FOURTH GRADE ART CLASS**: What we are studying in Art are dinosaurs. We are also studying and learning cropping and overlapping. Cropping is when you let the picture go off the page. Overlapping is when you draw two things one in front of the other, but you do not draw the part that is overlapping. This gives you picture depth and dimension. Dimension is a understanding. **Adison Studer**