



Bitz Intermediate News

December 2008



Note from the Principal

I wish to extend to each of you a very happy and healthy holiday season. We have much to celebrate as we unite with family and friends to enjoy fond memories of the past year and look forward to a fruitful and prosperous New Year, 2009, and beyond.

On behalf of our faculty and administration, I offer my sincere wishes for peace, health, and joy to each of you and your families. A reminder to all parents and students that the winter recess is scheduled for December 22, 2008 through January 2, 2009.

Daniel J. Osgood
Principal



Important Dates to Remember

- Dec. 1st – 5th PTA Winter Wonderland
- Dec. 8th Native American Assembly
Progress Reports
- Dec. 10th **Peers Parenting Class**
1300 – 1500 “**Making Children Mind, Without Losing Your Own**”
- Dec. 11th Native American Day Celebration with Room E108 1315 - 1400
Peers Parenting Class - 1300 – 1500
- Dec. 12th 0930 Poetry Recital – C104 & C105
1330 Poetry Recital – C110 & C111
- Dec. 17th 4th Grade Christmas Program
Peers Parenting Class - 1300 – 1500
Peers Parenting Class - 1300 - 1500
- Dec. 18th
Dec. 22nd –
Jan. 2nd **WINTER BREAK**



Lunch Prepay

The one-stop shop for automated school meal account management at Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools is now operational: www.lunchprepay.com. Using the secure site to make your payments and monitor your student’s account gives you the assurance of knowing where your money is going and how it is being spent. Using LunchPrepay.com will remove the stress that comes with making sure your student has cash for lunch. You will need to know your child’s 10-digit student number, not lunch number, to register for the service. This information can be provided at your school office, 451-2575.

CANCELLATION!!!

The December, 2008 School Board Meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting will be January 21st at 10 AM.

STUDENT CHECKOUT

When picking up your child for an appointment, please take into consideration the time for calling your child to the office and for him/her to gather his/her belongings. All students **must be** signed out by a parent or contact listed in the student database before being called to the office for checkout.

Deploying and Returning Sponsors

When sponsors deploy or return from deployment, please contact the office so that we can update our records. All information will be kept confidential.

Hello “Gator” Parents,



The Pennies for the Wounded Warriors Drive was a huge success. Our students’ generosity was overwhelming and their contributions exceeded my expectations. A huge “thank you” to all the students, parents and teachers who helped make this fundraiser a success.

CFC Key Worker

School Improvement Team

Please continue to check in on the Bitz Website to find monthly updates on the School Improvement Team page. Here you will find posted our school Mission, Vision, Core Values, Goals, and the progress we are making each month towards achieving our School Goals. You can link to the minutes from our last School Improvement Parent Forum and find out the date of our next meeting.

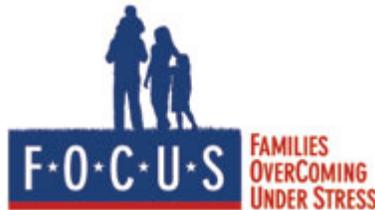
<http://www.am.dodea.edu/lejeune/BIS/index.htm>

Our next Parent Forum will be on **January 22nd at 1:00** in the Media Center. All parents are welcome to attend.

Military Family News

FOCUS PROJECT

Is your family struggling with coping during or after deployments? Maybe most of the family is fine but one or two are having a tough time. Maybe your child is acting out in school and you think it could be related to the wartime stress of deployments.



The help you need to build family resiliency is as close as a phone call. FOCUS PROJECT is a grant funded program which provides family training tailored to the needs of the individuals. Parents and children meet separately and together for series of 8 sessions to develop their family story and learn to build on the families strengths and plan for ways to cope in weaker areas.

The requirements are that the family is active duty military, has at least one child between the ages of 3-18, and they have been through or are in at least one deployment. If you want help for your family that is completely confidential and not connected to command, contact Project Focus at 450-0178.

MOVING SOON?

A great place to get information about schools at your new duty station is www.SchoolQuest.org. A part of the Military Child Education Coalition's website, School Quest can help you find out about testing requirements, school calendars, transition advice and more. Marine Corps Families can also visit the school liaison website and check out the links to the other duty stations' school liaisons to ask specific questions.

www.mccslejeune.com/schools

National Geography Bee

Bitz Intermediate School, for the first time ever, is participating in the 2009 National Geography Bee. Sponsored by the National Geographic Society, the Bee is a valuable classroom activity that encourages the teaching and learning of geography. Please note the dates and times of various competitions that will be held at the school:

- Dec. 1st-16th - All fourth and fifth grade classrooms will participate in a classroom bee.
- Dec. 17th - Ten students will be selected from all fourth and fifth grade classrooms based on their performance in the classroom bee.
- Jan. 9th 9:00 am – 10 selected students will participate in the school-wide competition.
- Jan. 15th 9 am - Winner of school competition takes written test to be mailed in for state competition.
- Apr. 3rd - Possible participant of State competition based on score of test.

The National Geography Bee has a website with practice tests if you would like to have your child take some practice tests. The website is

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geographybee/index.html>.



**NO SCHOOL
DECEMBER 22, 2008
THROUGH
JANUARY 2, 2009
WINTER BREAK**

News from the Counselor's office:

We would like to introduce a new online program for parents and students: SOAR (Student Online Achievement Resources). This program provides tutorials that are aimed at improving skills in math, reading and language arts. Parents can monitor their child's progress through this easy to use program. The goal is to identify strengths and areas where students may need improvement. Great resources available at this site! Go to www.SoarAtHome.org for access. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the school counseling office at 451-2575, ext 116.

School Counselors

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PARENTS & STUDENTS
DoDEA invites you to participate in its online biennial customer satisfaction survey,
November 1st to February 28th
Visit www.dodea.edu to include your input.
