

# Burrows Brief

## Math Matters



Burrows Elementary School  
[http://www.am.dodea.edu/ny\\_va/quantico/burrows](http://www.am.dodea.edu/ny_va/quantico/burrows)  
Randell M. Ekanger Principal  
703-640-6118

**OCTOBER 2008**

***Respect* is the Word of the Month**

### ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

Oct 3	Field Day ( 9 AM – 1:00 PM )	Rain date 6 Oct.
Oct 13	Columbus Day Observed – No School	
Oct 20 -24	Red Ribbon Week	
Oct 24	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Grading Period	
Oct 27	No School – Teacher Work Day	
Nov 4 – 7	Parent-Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal – 1:00 PM)	
Nov 10	No School	
Nov 11	Veterans Day – No School	
Nov 13	Individual Student Photo - Retakes	
Nov 20	Thanksgiving Feast in Cafeteria	
Nov 26 - 28	Thanksgiving Holiday Recess – No School	

### *Weekly Club Schedule*

Tuesdays.....Chorus

Wednesdays..... Mile Club, Homework Club, BG's/Yearbook, Safety Patrol

Thursdays..... Math Art Club, Technology Club

Fridays.....Mile Club

### **SIGN IN/OUT**

Parents, please remember that students arriving late and/or leaving school early **MUST** be signed in/out by a **parent or guardian** in the office.





# ***National Red Ribbon Week***



During the week of October 20 - 24 Burrows Elementary will be celebrating National Red Ribbon Week. The Red Ribbon Celebration starts with the small gesture of students wearing Red Ribbons. Though the act is simple, the significance is tremendous. Millions of students and adults will be celebrating a healthy, drug-free lifestyle this week by wearing or displaying a Red Ribbon. Each red ribbon has the potential to reach a boy, a girl, a caring adult or a family in a profound way. The Red Ribbon is a catalyst and symbol for millions of Americans who show that ribbon by ribbon, neighbor by neighbor; they are united for drug free youth.

The BG's will be sponsoring theme days throughout Red Ribbon Week. The schedule of events for students and staff members is as follows:

- 20 Oct Monday.....*“Too Cool for Drugs” – Wear Sunglasses.***
- 21 Oct Tuesday ..... *“Being Drug-Free is no Sweat” - Wear Sweats/Sweatshirts to show support.***
- 22 Oct Wednesday ..... *“Sock it to Drugs” - Everyone shows support by wearing crazy socks.***
- 23 Oct Thursday ..... *“Hats off to a Drug-Free Life” - Wear hats.***
- 24 Oct Friday .....*“Red Day” - Wear red clothing to show support.***

BG's will be looking for classes/students that participate....incentives will vary during the week.

## **NOTES FROM THE HEALTH CLINIC!**



- *Thanks to those of you who responded so quickly to our request to update Health History and Contact Information! While most of our injuries can be fixed with a band-aid or bag of ice, it is very important to know how to contact you in case of an emergency.*
- *Children with a fever of 100 degrees or more can not come to school until they are fever free for 24 hours. Encourage your children to cover their mouth when coughing and to wash their hands often. This will help contain germs and keep our students healthy.*
- *Please call the office at (703) 640-6118 for any absences. If your child is late to school, it is necessary for a parent to sign the child in at the front desk and the child to obtain a pass to class. We care about the safety of your child and this will help us ensure their well being.*



# 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE NEWS

## Science

5<sup>th</sup> graders are now finished with Unit 1, Changes in Matter. Students are now learning about the systems found in the human body, to include the respiratory, digestive, and circulatory systems. In addition, students will investigate and describe how structures within organisms work together. In addition, students will examine and describe the flow of matter in energy in living systems. Our investigations involve many hands on activities and experimentation. By using different modalities, we can be assured that these concepts will be learned and remembered.

## Language Arts

E1 Reading, E2 Writing

This quarter continues to find our students involved in the writing process to include narrative and descriptive writing. Using the 6+1 writing method improves our students writing in all areas. The reading selections being used focus and enable our students to work on various literary elements such as characterization, cause and effect, mood, summarizing, context clues, and multiple meaning words. These are literary skills necessary for optimum growth in reading.

## Social Studies

SS4 Spaced and Place

We are working in Chapter 2 Geography of the United States. The United States has a great variety of landscapes. We will be focusing on the regions and their natural resources.



At the end of this chapter, the students are to do the Think and Write (Writing A Travel Brochure) pg. 51. I will go over this activity and also give the students the rubric.

Our Ancestors Legacy Project has been changed to October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

At the end of each week for extra credit, the students are to do the **Geography Trivia Question**. Remember, in order to receive extra credit, they are to have the correct answer and the Parent's signature.

## Math

We have been applying addition and subtraction of whole numbers and decimals in problem solving situations. Students are looking for key words and actions to decide what operation is needed to solve the problem. We are learning to estimate the nearest value of a number based on a given place to find estimates without calculating the exact answer for a given problem.

Our next unit of study will be multiplication. Students will be learning to calculate estimates and exact products. Students will draw representations of multiplication problems using open arrays. They will identify and use the distributive and associative properties of multiplication.

## Grade Level Notes

Parents, please initial your child's assignment notebook each day.  
Ms. L's homeroom - Fiction book report and project due October 15  
Mrs. Cs homeroom - Fiction book report and project due October 16  
Ms. W's homeroom - Fiction book report and project due November 3  
Thank you, 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents, for all of your support!



# 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE NEWS

## *Science*

How dense is a fourth grader? We just may find out as we begin our newest unit in Science. Over the course of the next few weeks, your child will learn about matter and how it can be observed, measured, and changed. These skills are important because they help us understand more about physical changes that take place around us every day. We will measure mass, volume, and density of matter in several states before we move into the realm of force and motion. Understanding the relationship between force and motion is essential for the appreciation of mankind's technological advances.

## *Language Arts*

All students have received training in using the research areas of the media center. They are also working to improve their keyboarding skills in the computer lab each week. This quarter, the fourth graders are working on parts of speech, the writing process and the 6 traits of writing. Our Reading Counts Program is off to a great start with the students taking great pride in their accomplishments. Reading nightly at home is a great way to practice the skills we are learning in class.

## *Social Studies*

In Social Studies, we have been working diligently to increase our understanding of geography. We are learning to read maps and are using social studies vocabulary words such as hemisphere, latitude, longitude, compass rose and directions. We also have a big map skills project coming up in the very near future. We are also beginning our study of the regions of the U.S. We begin with the Southwest. This is also a very special year in social studies as we will be discussing the upcoming national presidential election!

## *Math*

In math we have been exploring multiplication through practicing two different types of multiplication problems—equal groups and comparison. First we read Amanda Bean and Her Amazing Dream. Next, students used kidney beans to show the problems that were found in the story. Then students substituted numbers for the beans and wrote multiplication and addition equations that represented the problems. We've been studying arrays and are in the process of making a chart of arrays that shows all the multiplication facts through 12.

## Grade Level Notes

We need your help. Cold & flu season is just around the corner. It is our goal to keep the children happy & healthy to insure success here at school. To accomplish this, we are asking for donations. Each classroom is in need of facial tissues and hand sanitizer. If you are able to assist us in this area it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!





# Physical Education Update



Burrows Elementary School  
3 October

*In Physical Education classes, students have been learning how to play a modified version of flag football. They know the very basics of the game which is adapted to our small field. Students know how to execute a kick off and kick off return. They can safely tackle, pulling the flags, and have demonstrated understanding of the changing line of scrimmage. On our small field, they have four downs to score. Teams understand what to do, and more importantly, where to face on the field, when they are playing offense or defense. Eventually, they will know the difference between a pass play, quarterback sneak and center sneak. Of course as defense, they will also know how to blitz.*

*Participation in a team sports, will grow our students as athletes and as cooperative team players who gain a sense of good sportsmanship. Sometimes learning how to win is as important as learning how to lose. Students are also learning how to play by the rules, which keeps them safe and reduces the incidence of arguments. One benefit of this personal growth is our students' ability to play these games at recess without needing an adult to referee.*



*After field day, students will be given information about the Active Lifestyle Award. This is an award that every child in our school is capable of earning. It only requires 60 minutes of activity a day, for 5 out of 7 days a week. Students can earn certificates and patches which are given out at our end of the year awards assembly.*



*Mile Club, our walking/jogging/running club began the last week of September. As advertised, we will meet on Wednesdays and Fridays. Students may join any time during the year. Students are not penalized if they have to miss because of other commitments. Students may bring in notes from home if they are running or walking with their parents. Students playing football, soccer, or lacrosse may also earn miles. Please let us know how many practices and how many games they play. We credit each game and each practice with a half mile.*

*NEW COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN  
2006-2011  
2008 ALIGNMENT*

*Dear Parents,*

*During April of 2008, in Arlington, Virginia, a committee comprised of representatives from HQ, Area Deputy Directors, and employee union/association officials met to review the 2006-2011 Community Strategic Plan (CSP).*

*The charge was to align CSP goals, outcomes, measures, and milestones. This initiative resulted in a newly revised plan that is called the Community Strategic Plan 2006-2011, 2008 Alignment. The new CSP is easier to read and understand, provides clear and specific objectives, and defines measures to better match objectives. The CSP affirms DoDEA's Vision, Mission, and Guiding Principles - they are unchanged.*

*The plan preserves the 4 Goals from the previous CSP – CSP Goals basically remain the same. Goal 1 – “Productive Citizenship” is removed from the language since it is embedded in the Guiding Principles and is an inherent core value of all CSP goals for all DoDEA stakeholders. Other goal statements are unchanged.*

*Terminology changes:*

- *“OBJECTIVE” replaces “outcome”*
- *“STRATEGY” replaces “outcome milestone”*
- *“ACTION” replaces “measures”*
- *“DATA” replaces “implementation milestones”*

*Percentage statements are omitted (75% above...7% or less...). Instead, ALL students will show academic growth (beginning to end of school year) in student achievement... (Goal 1, Objective 1). Objectives for each Goal were written using the SMART model (Specific, Measurable, Aligned, Realistic, and Time Sensitive).*

*The new 2008 CSP Alignment provides strategic direction for our efforts toward continuous school improvement in a reorganized format. The new CSP is a roadmap for keeping DODEA at the forefront in advancing the Department of Defense's agenda for education, and as a leader in the nation for raising student performance and achievement.*

*A CSP booklet is currently being developed to help illustrate the new 2008 CSP Alignment – copies will soon be available to parents through schools, DSO's, the Area Office, and the plan is currently posted on the DODEA website at <http://www.dodea.edu/csp/>.*

*I welcome your active interest, support, and involvement as we initiate this new Community Strategic Plan. As parents and educators, we share a mutual obligation to ensure success for every child in our military community.*

*Randy Ekanger  
Principal*

## **PEA Corner**

*HAVE EXTRA TIME ON YOUR HANDS?....*

*WANT TO HELP OUT?.....*

*BURROWS SCHOOL STORE is looking for some volunteers to help out*

*It requires only 15 minutes a day.... 8:00 am to 8:15 am... right before school starts!*

*The school store is a fun place for the kids to stop by on their way to class... we have pencils, pens, erasers and other little items that won't break your bank!!!*

*The store runs on volunteers so we really need your help.*

*If you are interested, please let us know!*

