APRIL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

School Hours: 7:30 - 2:00
Phone: (320) 370-6180

FROM PRINCIPAL HOLM

April is a busy month at Discovery. We celebrated all the hard work and success of our students with an assembly this month. Fifth grade students were part of a kindness retreat in our gym last Friday. They did a fabulous job with all the activities.

Conferences took place in March. Please contact your student's teacher to reschedule if you were not able to attend. It is never too late to reach out to a teacher.
ARE YOU OUR NEXT DYNAMIC DISCOVERY COMMUNITY SCHOOL EMPLOYEE?

It is never too late in the school year to get a job with your student’s school! Right now Discovery is interviewing for SPECIAL EDUCATION PARAEDUCATOR positions. If you are looking for a job that matches your students’ school calendar, this is the perfect opportunity.


We hope to hear from you!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 7, Friday - No School
- April 21, Friday - No School

IMPORTANT UPDATE ON "AT HOME" COVID TESTS

If you’ve recently received a complementary BinaxNOW COVID test from our school, please note that the FDA has extended the expiration date to 10/15/2023.

2023-24 SCHOOL CALENDAR NOW AVAILABLE!
WE ARE A PEANUT, TREE NUT, LATEX FREE SCHOOL

Please do not send food with any peanut or tree nut ingredients to school. We have students with severe allergies.

APPOINTMENT PICK-UPS

When you are picking up your child for an appointment, please let the teacher or office know ahead of time if possible.

GOING HOME INFORMATION

If your child will not be going home the usual way, please let the office (320-370-6180) know by 1:30 p.m. so we have time to inform the teachers.

STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

Please do not bring any balloons, flowers, cake, cupcakes, or cookies for student birthdays. Some children are allergic to these items. Teachers celebrate student birthdays in class so all students feel special. District 742 schools are nut-safe, latex-safe, and allergy aware. Please do not send products that contain peanuts or tree nuts, or latex. Please check all labels to ensure a product is not manufactured in a facility with peanuts or tree nuts. Many non-food items can be used in classrooms to celebrate events. Thank you for your cooperation.

LOST AND FOUND!!!!

Parents, we have a lot of lost and found clothing, coats, hats, gloves, etc. If your child is missing an article of clothing, please come in to look over the lost and found items. Also, labeling your child's clothing on the tag with initials or last name is very helpful. We will retain lost and found items until the end of December.

ATTENDANCE IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILD’S SUCCESS! REGULAR ATTENDANCE IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO SUCCESSFUL ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT.

Please let the Discovery office know as soon as possible whenever your child is absent or will be late and the reason. Discovery's phone number is (320)370-6180. If you leave a voicemail
message, please indicate the reason for your child's absence.

A student is considered truant (3 full-day unexcused absences) when we do not know the reason for their absence. When a student has 3 truant days, a letter is sent home to the parent and the County. At 5 truant days, a letter is again sent to the parents and the County.

When a student has 7 truant days, the school requests a "Truancy/Educational Neglect Petition" to be filed with the County for screening, assessment, and investigation

**HELLO FROM KINDERGARTEN!**

Hi Kinder Families!

This year has been flying by! We can't believe we only have a few more months before Summer. We have been working hard on learning different skills. We are making predictions, finding the problem and solution, and looking for key details during reading!

Remember to keep practicing those letters and sight words to help us grow.

In math, we are starting our measurement chapter! We just finished learning about subtraction and composing teen numbers. Next- we will move on to 3D shapes! Keep practicing counting and writing numbers with your students at home.

In social studies/science, we just finished learning about habitats and will be learning about Geography and landforms next.

*Remember to keep checking the weather each morning- Minnesota is never the same from one day to the next! We go outside each day and want to make sure our students come dressed and ready to play!

Thank you!
Ms. Timpane, Ms. Strahan, Mrs. DeChambeau, and Ms. Koll

**1ST GRADE**

First-grade families,

Spring is such an exciting time in 1st grade! To start with we will be planting seeds and making a journal as they grow. We will also be entomologists by observing caterpillars turning into butterflies in our very own classrooms.

In math, your students will be able to tell the time up to the hour and a half hour on a digital clock and an analog clock. We are also learning all about identifying and knowing the values of a penny, nickel, dime, and quarter up to $1.00.
We will also be hosting a family engagement day on Friday, April 28th where you are welcome to join your student in their classroom to make homemade ice cream and write a recipe to bring home! More information was sent home during conferences. We are so excited!

Thank you for all you do,

Your first-grade teachers!

THE SECOND GRADE SCOOP

Please keep encouraging your child to read at home EVERY day for at least 20 minutes. After reading, have your child tell you about the characters, setting, problem, and solution in the story. If the book is informational, have students share facts they learned after reading.

READING: We have been reading stories about kids around the world and about how the Earth changes. We have focused on the strategies compare and contrast and cause and effect.

MATH: We just finished our money unit in math. Students can identify and count variations of coins. We have just started learning how to tell time to 5 minutes. You can ask your child what the time is throughout the day to help them with this skill.

We appreciate all the work you do at home to help your child! We’re ready for a busy month of learning and new experiences!

Second Grade Teachers
Ms. Smith, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Burrer, and Ms. Aden

3RD GRADE

Greetings from 3rd Grade!

Dear Third Grade Families,
We appreciated meeting with all of you for conferences. If you were unable to attend conferences, please reach out to the teacher if she hasn’t done so already to schedule a time to meet or talk on the phone.

We will be busy learning during the month of April. Third grade will be MCA testing on April 11, 12, and 13. It is important your third grader is in school and well rested on these days. This month in reading class, the third graders will be studying poetry and expository texts studying animals. We will wrap-up the unit with an animal writing project while learning about animal adaptations in science. We will be completing our measurement unit and then heading into a geometry unit where we will be studying the attributes of shapes. We will be learning about ancient civilizations in social studies.

Please help your child have a successful and enjoyable end of the school year by encouraging and supporting positive behaviors at school. Getting enough sleep, playing outside or getting
exercise, limiting screen time, and eating healthy meals and snacks is an important part of supporting positive behaviors. As a reminder, students are not allowed to bring unhealthy snacks or beverages to school to have with lunch or at any time during the school day. This includes chips and energy drinks (Prime drinks).

Sincerely,
Ms. Ewaysi, Ms. Klatt, and Ms. Kremer
Third Grade Teachers

4TH GRADE

Hi from Fourth Grade!

Fourth Graders have been busy doing research for their state projects. Each student gets their own state and at the end of five weeks will be an expert! We are also preparing for the MCA's! In reading Fourth Graders are becoming very skilled at identifying the authors point of view in a text. We can't wait for the weather to warm up and have lots of recess fun!

- Ms. Fernelius, Ms. Hallermann, Ms. Huberty

5TH GRADE

Hello from Fifth Grade! Nicer weather is approaching and spring is here. Fifth graders take three MCA tests: reading, math and science. To prepare for these tests, please ensure that your child is getting enough rest at night. In math, we are working on geometry: area, perimeter, surface area, and volume. Point out real-life 3D shapes to your child! In reading, we are reading biographies. Ask your child who we have learned about so far!

Happy spring from the 5th Grade Team!

Thanks,
Ms. Miller, Ms. Gonzalez and Ms. Schroll

PHY ED

Run, Swing, and Kick your way to the end of the school year in Physical Education class! We are nearing the end of the school year for our Discovery Dolphins and that means Baseball, Softball, Kickball, and Track and Field are in the air. The smell of fresh cut grass, dirty clothes from playing in the mud, and of course SNOW... I mean Rain!
April and May are exciting months because the students get to make their way outdoors and play games and activities in the fresh air! The students will get the opportunity to play kickball, baseball, tee-ball, and soccer. The dirt fields are perfect for the students to learn to run from base to base and kick a moving ball. We are also working in depth on Hand-to-Eye
Coordination with the kids. Having the children swing a bat and hit a ball off a tee, hit a moving ball with a tennis racquet, or kick a moving ball are difficult things to do, but very exciting when students succeed and smash the ball a long way!

Currently the Discovery Students are participating in track and field, and racquet skills. On Wednesday May 17th, the 5th graders will be heading to Apollo High School to participate in the North Side of town Track meet. The students will be running distances of 60 meters, 200m, 400m, 800m, and 4 X 100m relay. Along with distance running, the students will be competing in a soccer ball kick, softball toss, tug-o-war, and long jump.

Good Luck Discovery Dolphins!
Remember, parents are always welcome to attend class the day their child is participating in physical education. Please make sure to sign-in at the office and head to the gym.

Mr. Thoreson
Mr. Richmond
Discovery Physical Education

Music

Music news from Mr. Zahn’s room, April, 2023

Grade 5 students have been learning the basics of ukulele playing. It has been challenging trying to put our fingers in the right places!

Grades 5 & 4 are learning how to “break the code of music!” We already have solid rhythm reading skills and are now diving into naming, labeling and drawing notes. We are learning to use the music staff to write higher and lower sounds by creating our own words using the 7 letters of the music alphabet.

Grade 3 & 4 students are creating and playing their own patterns on xylophones and learning some familiar melodies and songs on them as well.

Grade 2 students are exploring songs they know on xylophone, including: Twinkle Little Star, Hot Cross Buns and Rain, Rain Go Away. We are also singing “I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly” and will soon create our own version of that song!

Grade 1 students are moving with a beat and creating new patterns using body sounds like stomping, clapping, patting and snapping.

Kindergarten students are singing so many songs, I can’t keep track! are now reading musical rhythms. We SPEAK the rhythms, then we PLAY them on drums, too!

All grade K, 1, 2 & 3 students have started singing in Somali, Spanish and English!!!
Hello from the Health Office!
We would like to remind all parents and guardians that when a student is being sent home from the health office, they need to be picked up within 30 minutes for their safety and the safety of other students and staff. Please also make sure your phone numbers and emergency contacts are up to date, so we are able to reach you.

Thank you for working with us to keep everyone healthy and safe.
Nurse Karin & Nurse Veronica