

DuFief Elementary School
 15001 DuFief Drive
 Gaithersburg, MD 20878



DUFIEF NEWS

Volume 7, Issue 3

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

October 8, 2009

NEWS...

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Happy Autumn!

Can you believe how quickly September slipped by? As we welcome the beautiful autumn weather and the month of October, please know that your children are working very hard and accomplishing many academic goals. We are so proud of our students! Believe it or not, we are half way through the first marking period.

Please mark your calendars! Monday, October 12 is the scheduled date for parents to visit schools. We welcome you to visit your child's class between 9:00 and 11:30 a.m. Please sign in at the main office before visiting your child's classroom. This is an excellent opportunity to observe what your children are learning, and to see evidence of what they have learned displayed in their classrooms and on hall displays throughout the school.

It was great to see so many families reading and enjoying bagels at our first "Books and Bagels" of the year. This very special event, funded by our PTA, encourages children and families to read together. We have three more "Books and Bagels" scheduled for this year. Watch for the dates and plan to join us! We also had a great turnout for the picnic...with no rain! Many thanks to the parents who organized this fun, family event, and to everyone, including our staff, who were able to join us for a great time.

Please enjoy the next couple of weeks and the warm fall weather!

Sincerely,

Box Top Winner!

Congratulations to
Grant S.
 September
 Box Top Winner!



Books for DuFief



A **BIG Thank You** to Grant S., Alex A., Grace M., Ryan M., and the G. family for the many gently used books they donated to the DuFief Media Center.

A **BIG Thank You** to Aleko S. for the donation of The Last Olympian and to Mrs. Kipfer for the donation of The Darkest Warrior to the DuFief Media Center.

Montgomery College YOUTH PROGRAMS

Saturday Discoveries

A one-day enrichment program offered for gifted and talented students in grades 4 and 5, scheduled for Saturday, November 14, 2009 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. on the Takoma Park campus.

Students will have an opportunity to select four workshops to participate in during the day. Workshops cover a variety of topics including science, problem solving, creative writing, computer gaming, and much more.

Workshops fill quickly, so register soon!

For additional brochures or registration information, contact Workforce Development & Continuing Education at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917 or access our website at www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth.

Montgomery College YOUTH PROGRAMS

KIDS COLLEGE

After school and Saturday courses for students in grades K - 12 held on the Rockville and Germantown campuses. These courses provide enrichment and advancement and cover a wide range of topics including science, math, art, drama, game design, music, study skills, and keyboarding,

Courses fill quickly, so register soon!

For brochures or registration forms, access our website at:

www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth.

For additional information, contact **YOUTH PROGRAMS** office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917.

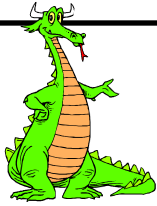
Peace, Love, and Pennies

It is amazing how many pennies our students have brought in to support the Peace, Love and Pennies drive to help orphans in Africa. We will be collecting pennies the entire month of October. Together we can make a difference! Thank you.



Seasonal Flu Vaccine

Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services has suspended the 2009 school based Seasonal Flu Vaccine Program. This affects DuFief Elementary children who need the second FluMist (nasal vaccine) and the children who were expecting to receive the Seasonal Flu Shot. An important letter was sent home with the children who needed the second dose of the FluMist (nasal vaccine) or the Flu Shot. Please read the information carefully so you can make other arrangements to have your children receive the Seasonal Flu Vaccine. At this time we do not have any information regarding the H1N1 Vaccine Program. Thank you for your continued support.



Dazzling Dragon Work



Please stop by to see evidence of what our students are learning on our "Dazzling Dragon" bulletin board. Twice a month, teachers will select outstanding work to be highlighted on this special "Dragon" bulletin board. Students will be congratulated through morning announcements and recognized in our bimonthly newsletters. ***Congratulations to the following students for their excellent work which is currently on display.***

Kindergarten: Phineas S.

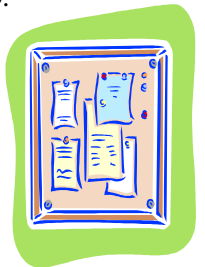
1st Grade: Alina S., Christina J., Ava K., Sydney S., Kyle M., Yanira B., James W., Ben W., Harry S.

2nd Grade: Sarah L., Michelle L., Demi E., Rafael L.

3rd Grade: Keith C., Michael W., Jamar V.

4th Grade: Maelys M., Elein P., Rachel L., Alex A., Shirsa R., Ruth C., Elizabeth C.

5th Grade: Arjun P., Jenna M., Richard C., Gurbani S., Sally K., Kyle M.



Counselor's Corner... Mrs. Pape

Responsibility is our character pillar focus for the month of October. Your children have the opportunity to receive green responsibility tickets from any staff member for showing "extra" responsible behavior. Every Friday morning, we will read the names of any students who receive green tickets. They will then be entered into a raffle to win for Citizen of the month. I will draw 3 names at the end of every month. Good luck to your children!

How can I help my child to be more responsible? Give your child chores to do. Here are 5 tips for getting your child involved:

Start early. As soon as they are able to walk, they can begin to help you with small chores, like putting their toys away and tossing laundry into a basket.

Offer choices. Allow your kids to have a say in the tasks they are responsible for. Make a list of all the things that need to be completed and allow your child to choose one or two age-appropriate tasks.

Demonstrate. Whenever you're introducing a new task, make sure you show your children what to do.

Set reasonable expectations. The most important thing about teaching your children to be responsible for chores around the house is that you are learning to work together as a family. At the same time, you're also exposing them to skills they'll need as an adult.

Gradually increase your kids' responsibilities. As your children become more skilled in completing chores around the house, mix it up by introducing new tasks.

Attention! 5th Grade Parents

Middle School Magnet Information:

Materials are available starting October 2.
Application deadline is November 9, 2009.

Evening meetings:

Clemente: Wednesday, October 14

Eastern: Monday, October 19

Takoma Park: Wednesday, October 21

Application workshop at Gaithersburg HS,
Thursday, October 29

Application workshop at Wheaton HS,
Monday, November 2

Argyle: Wednesday, October 28, 7 p.m.

Loiderman: Thursday, October 15, 7 p.m.

Parkland: Thursday, November 5, 7 p.m.

If you have any questions, please call
Mrs. Pape. Thank you!

DUFIEF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

15001 DuFief Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-279-4980

Mrs. Dorothy J. Reitz, Principal
Mr. Harry Williams, Assistant Principal

*LEARNING TO LIVE,
LIVING TO LEARN*

We envision a DuFief Elementary School community where staff and parents enthusiastically support students in mastering academic and social skills that guide them to become productive, lifelong learners.



Mark Your Calendars!

Oct. 9	PTA Family Fun Night
Oct. 16	No School - Teacher Convention
Oct. 30	Halloween Parade and Parties 1:45 p.m.
Nov. 2	No School - Professional Day
Nov. 11	Early Release Day 12:35 p.m.
Nov. 12	Early Release Day 12:35 p.m.
Nov. 25	Early Release Day 12:35 p.m.
Nov. 26	Happy Thanksgiving (No School)
Nov. 27	No School

Friendly Reminders

- An October calendar is attached for your reference.
- **Box Tops for Education** - Please save your box tops! There will be a drawing next week at the end of September!
- The first quarter ends on October 30.