

The Eagle's Nest

Diamond Springs Elementary Home of the Little Eagles



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The Principal's Corner

Developing the Next Generation of Leaders

October was a busy month at Diamond Springs Elementary. We started our MAGIC program. Wow, what fun students are having extending their learning through many hands on activities and movement. Our first Tri-Campus Parent Involvement activity was a very huge success. We had more than 500 parents and students attend the event. The students from each of the schools performed for their parents songs, poems, readings, and cheers about the 7 Habits. The Tri-Campus schools use the 7 Habits as a springboard for developing student leaders for the 21st century. Stephen Covey's 7 Habits teach students essential life skills and characteristics needed in order to thrive in the 21st century. We are really excited about how the students and the teachers have embraced this leadership program. Picture day was October 26. I hope you were able to purchase your child's pictures. These pictures are great memories of your child's early years in school. As you are all aware, we held the H1N1 vaccine clinic Tuesday, October 27. The students did a wonderful job. Thank you so much for getting the consent forms turned in on time. Finally, our first annual Fall Festival. What fun! We had more than 600 people in attendance. Thank you so very much for your support. I hope everyone had a great time. We did!

Thank you for taking the time to meet with your child's teacher. This partnership between home and school is essential. I hope your time with your child's teacher was very productive and you were given strategies and suggestions to help your child at home. Report cards will be issued Monday, November 23. Please take the time and review the report with your child. Encourage your child to do his or her best each day.

November 16-20 is American Education Week. We have an activity planned for each day during that week. Our first Dress for Success Day will be held during American Education Week and parents will be invited to visit classrooms that week as well. These are but a few of the activities. More information will come home soon.

This is the season for Thanksgiving and I have so many things to be thankful for. I give thanks for our wonderful community, which supports the education of all of its children. I give thanks for our wonderful parents, for all they do to help their child and our school be successful. I give thanks for our wonderful teachers, who work so very hard each day to provide each child a quality education. Last, but not least, I give thanks for our students. They are why we do what we do. They are the heart and soul of this school.

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Diamond Springs, I wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving.

Report Card Envelope

Report cards will come home in an envelope on November 23. You will need to sign the envelope and return the envelope to your child's teacher. You

may keep the paper copy of the report card.

Kindergarten Parent Night

All kindergarten parents, please join us for a night of learning. Tuesday, November 10, come out and see what your child is learning in kindergarten. Dinner will be served.

Early Dismissal

November 25 is an adjusted dismissal day. School will closed for students at 12:00 p.m. Please plan ahead and remember to notify your daycare provider.

AlertNow

Please notify the school if you are not receiving AlertNow messages from the school. It could be that we need updated information. AlertNow is a powerful and convenient notification system that allows the school to send out important messages and reminders about school events and/or emergency situations.

Homework

As always, please make sure that your child is reading for 15 minutes nightly. This is our mandatory homework policy. We have taught our students three ways to read a book, so no excuses. Students can read the pictures, retell the story, or read the words. Don't forget to sign the reading log nightly.



We are using Covey's 7 Habits to "Grow the Next Generation of Leaders". Please reinforce these habits at home with your children and again, thank you for attending the 7 Habits Parent Night.

The 7 Habits

Habit 1- Be Proactive

Stop, think, and make a good choice. Be responsible.

Habit 2-Begin with the End in Mind

Set a goal and work to achieve it.

Habit 3- Put First Things First

Do the most important things first. Work before you play.

Habit 4-Think Win-Win

Do what's best for you and your friend. Share. Comprise.

Habit 5- Seek First to Understand, The to be Understood

Listen to your friends and care about what they're saying.

Habit 6- Synergize

Work Together.

Habit 7- Sharpen the Saw

Have fun and take care of yourself.

Picture Make-up Day

If your child did not have his or her picture taken in October, you have another opportunity. Picture Make-Up Day will be Thursday, December 3.

Book of the Month: Building a Culture of Literacy Month by Month

We hope you are enjoying the Book of the Month activities with your child. November Book of the Month activities will come home on Wednesday, November 4. Teachers and students will be reading the book, Stone Soup by Marsha Brown Monday, November 2. Please read the parent letter carefully for suggested activities for you to engage in with your child at home. Thank you for your support in helping us build a culture of literacy.

First Grade Team 1 Highlights

Our first grade students are off to an exciting start! They have grown and learned so much already this year! The first graders are becoming the leaders of the Diamond Springs. We have been learning the Seven Habits of being a leader. The Habit that we are focusing on this month is "Begin with the End in Mind." We are setting goals and working to achieve them! In addition to becoming leaders, the first graders have been very busy reading and writing.

Two language art programs that the first grade students participate in are Making Meaning and Being a Writer. These two programs teach students reading and writing strategies

while developing community among the students. The students are learning to respond to a variety of genres while gaining reading comprehension and responding to the literature by journal and sentence writing. These programs make learning real and enjoyable for the students.

First grade has brought many new experiences. Each month, Diamond Springs has a showcase your talent performance. Our team recently participated in show case your talents by performing a reader's theater. Reader's theater is a presentation of students reading a written play. The purpose of readers theater is for the students to focus on reading a piece of text with expression. A group of students from each of the five classes on our team, came together to read a play about George Washington. George Washington is one of the famous Americans that the first graders study in Social Studies. The students learned



many new and important facts about George Washington while performing this reader's theater. It was a great way to integrate social studies and language arts! The first graders should be proud of the accomplishments that they have made thus far. Please, continue to check the students folders everyday. Read for 15 minutes and complete daily math homework! Thanks for your support at home! First graders, keep up the good work!

Team 1: Miss. Conlee, Mr. Crouse, Mrs. Vazquez, Mrs. Rastetter, and Mrs. Raymond

Important Dates To Remember In November

Election Day/Staff Day—No School for Students	11/03
Parent Book of the Month Activity	11/04
Student of the Month	11/06
Veterans Day—School Closed	11/11
Dinner for Dads at Newtown ES	11/17
Report Cards Issued	11/23
RJ Day and Adjusted Dismissal	11/25
Thanksgiving Holidays	11/26-27