

Deep River Elementary School

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 12, 2011

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Principal's Corner by John F. Pietrick, Ph.D.



Parent—Teacher Conferences Scheduled for October 19-21

Parent—Teacher Conferences are planned for Wednesday, October 19th through Friday, October 21st. During each of those days, we will be following our early closing schedule. This is an extremely important meeting. It is an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and to form a relationship which together will enable your child to make the most gains in school. Parental participation has a direct relationship on student performance. It is important that parents and teacher work as a team. Parents can share important information which can directly impact success at school. Our staff works with your child for six hours each day. Parents can share information which gives the teacher a complete view of the child.

Parents should feel free to ask questions at the conference. It is important that parents have up to date information and completely understand the daily requirements associated with the class. Parents have information on their child which can greatly assist the teacher in working with the child. Information shared might include: academic history, social challenges, and family issues—all of which could impact success in the classroom.

It is also important that parents remain "in the loop" - keep the lines of communication open. Be sure the teacher has your cell phone telephone number as well as e-mail address. If your child comes home with an issue that you feel needs to be followed up—you should be able to contact the teacher in a timely manner. Likewise, if an issue occurs in class, the teacher should have a means to contact you.

Information can be obtained by asking the simplest of questions. These may include:

- What is my child doing well in?
- How can I support my child's educational needs at home?
- How is my child doing socially?
- What can I do to stay more involved in my child's academic progress?

Please make every effort to attend your child's fall parent—teacher conference. It is important that the lines of communication remain open and we all work as a team to ensure each child experiences success in school.

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SPECIAL THANK YOU!

A special thank you goes to Mrs. Peggy Schaedler for all of her efforts in organizing our annual Summer Reading Breakfasts. Thank you also to Mrs. Donna Coleman (DRES Cafeteria Manager), Mr. Thomas Peterlik (Region 4 Food Service Director), Mrs. Lynn Griffin (DRES Cafeteria Staff), Mr. Peter Waz (DRES Head Custodian), Mrs. Cathy Miller (Reading Consultant) and Mrs. Jackie Courtmanche (Reading Consultant) for their assistance and support in this program.

Our Celebration of Summer Reading has grown to the point that we now need three breakfasts to recognize all the participating students. Over 65% of the 1st through 6th grade students participated in the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge this year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| October 11..... | DRES PTO 7:00 p.m. Sch. Lib. |
| October 12..... | Mentor Breakfast |
| October 19-21..... | Parent / Teacher Conferences Early Closing Schedule |
| October 21..... | DRES Town Meeting Assembly 9:30 a.m. |
| October 31..... | Annual Halloween Parade 1:30 p.m. |
| November 1-3..... | PTO Book Fair |
| November 8..... | DRES PTO 7:00 p.m. Sch. Lib. |
| November 10..... | Annual Veteran's Day Ceremony 9:30 a.m. |
| November 10..... | Early Release Day—Professional Dev. |
| November 11..... | NO SCHOOL—Veteran's Day |
| November 14-18..... | Annual PTO Food Drive |
| November 17..... | DRES BOE 7:00 p.m. Sch. Lib. |
| November 18..... | PTO Fall BINGO J.W.M.S. (Doors open At 6:30—Games begin at 7:00 p.m.) |
| November 23..... | Early Closing—Thanksgiving |

October 31 Annual Halloween Parade

Mark your calendar!

Monday, October 31st

ANNUAL DRES HALLOWEEN PARADE

1:30 p.m.



**D.R.E.S.
Annual Halloween Parade
October 31, 2011
1:30 p.m.**

Reminder:

If you ride your bike or a scooter to school—please lock your bike or scooter to either of the bike racks located in the front and back of the school.

Also, helmets are required for all students riding bicycles to school.



**We are on the web:
www.dres.k12.ct.us**

Just a Reminder:

PTO Bingo Night

November 18

**Doors Open at
6:30 p.m. JWMS**

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**PTO Fall Food
Drive**

Nov. 14-18

**All donations wel-
come**

**Mark your cal-
endar:**

**PTO Book Fair
Nov. 1-3**

**Book Fair Night
November 2
6-8 p.m.**

Next PTO Meeting:

October 11 7:00 p.m.

November 8 7:00 p.m.

Parent—Teacher Conferences

October 19-21

Early Closing Schedule will be followed

Evening Conferences: October 19

Social Development News

Plans are under way for the DRES Fall Social Development Initiative. Each year our school comes together and collectively supports a cause. This year we will be turning our efforts to Haiti as we collect and fashion Art Supply kits for students at one of the schools. In the classrooms students will listen to the book, It Takes A Village by Jane Cowen-Fletcher and then hear about our plan, “From Our Village to Yours ~Be A Part of the Art~ Supplies for Haiti.” Parents should be on the look out for an informational letter from Laura Kaspro and Diana Carfi with more details but for now we are asking that you..... save Pringles cans!!



The Mentor Program has its kickoff Breakfast on October 13th. Twenty-six students have mentors at DRES. This program matches students with adult role models, many of them DRES staff members. Although the program looks to provide students with some extra individual adult attention it is not clear who has more fun throughout the year!

On October 21st we will have the All School Town Meeting Assembly. This fun event highlights our coming together as a school with staff introductions as well as introducing the Student Council, welcoming of new students and featuring some of the goings on here at DRES.

Upcoming Events.....

DRES will once again join forces with the local Rotary Club to participate in the Thanksgiving Dinner Drive. This drive benefits local families in need so that all can enjoy a bountiful Thanksgiving dinner.





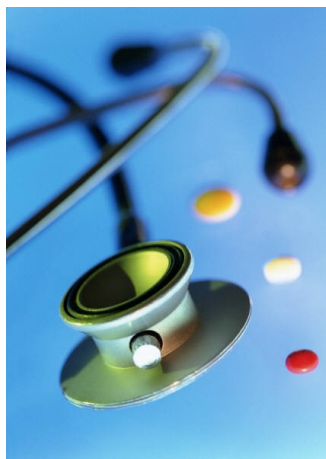
Important Health Room Information

Autumn is here and so are all the colds, fevers and sore throats. I have been seeing many students with colds and quite a few cases of strep throat.

Upper respiratory infections and strep throat are very contagious. Since we will continue to see these ailments as winter approaches, here are a few tips to keep your child healthy.

1. Although we want children to be in school as much as possible there are times when it is not helpful for them or their classmates for them to be here. Please keep your child home from school if any of the following symptoms are present:
 - * Fever at or over 100. If he or she does have a fever at home they should not return to school until they are fever free for 24 hrs.
 - * Excessive coughing, or large amounts of nasal congestion or drainage.
 - * Rash of unknown origin
 - * Itchy-red eyes with whitish discharge or crusting-(possible conjunctivitis)
 - * Vomiting-student should not return to school until he/she has not vomited for 24 hrs.
2. If your child exhibits signs of strep throat-i.e.-fever, painful swallowing, upset stomach, or swollen glands under the jaw-take them to their physician. Most likely a strep test will be performed. Sometimes the rapid test is negative but the 48 hr test comes back positive. If your child feels very ill –do not send them to school even if the first test was negative. If they test positive for strep they need to stay home until they have been on Antibiotics for 24 hrs. If they still feel ill keep them home until they are Symptom free.
3. To prevent catching a cold or other illness teach your children good hand washing-such as washing after going to the bath room, handling pets, blowing their noses, before eating, etc. Also try to keep hands and fingers off of their faces.

Mrs. Kathy Kalapos, R.N.



New Books Arrive at the DRES Library

Librarian's Pick



New Picture Books

Wiener Wolf by Jeff Crosby

Bear With Me by Max Kornell

Dino Baseball by Lisa Wheeler

Gingerbread Man Loose in School by Laura Murray

2012 Nutmeg Nominee Books

The Gollywhopper Games by Jody Feldman

Extra Credit by Andrew Clements

Masterpiece by Elise Broach

New in Nonfiction

That's Awesome! The World's Most Amazing Facts & Records by Time for Kids

Meteorologist's Tools by Anders Hanson

The Iraq War (The Secret History Series) by Simon Admas

Fire Dog Heroes by Linda Bozzo

Schools of the Past, Present, and Future by Linda Bozzo

The Teen Who Invented Television by Edwin Brit Wyckoff

Stop in the library and select one of the new books to take home!



PTO Reminder!

Remember to save your **Box Top for Education Coupons**

Coupons will be collected throughout the school year.

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CAFETERIA INFORMATION

Just a reminder!

Price Check— Milk 50 cents

Student Lunch \$2.75

Adult Lunch \$3.75

Free and reduced lunch forms are available in the school office. Parents requiring a form should call or stop into the school office and see Mrs. Zupan.

D.R.E.S. Cafeteria Update

PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S CAFETERIA ACCOUNT

This is how to check your child's account:

1. Go into the school website: www.dres.k12.ct.us
2. Click on Parent Resources
3. Click on Power School
4. Type in the User Name (sent to you in September).
5. Type in the Password (sent to you in September).
6. View your child's account

Any questions call our school office at 860-526-5319 Ext. 0



DRES Steering Committee

Sets School Goals

For the

2011-2012 School Year

Each September, the DRES Steering Committee (with representatives from each grade level and support areas) review both in-house & CMT data to determine areas of academic focus for the new school year. Listed below are the school goals for the 2011-2012 school year:

Math: To improve problem solving strategies with a focus on estimating solutions to problems (CMT strand 11). Student progress will be tracked by using formative assessments found on Performance Plus tracker. (Data from this goal will be used for school data boards).

Reading: To develop independent readers through Reading Workshop including strategy instruction with non-fiction texts.

Writing: To develop independent writers through the use of writing workshop including mentor texts, small groups, & individual conferencing.





Save your Give- Aways!



The DRES PTO is hosting a Used Goods Drive this October.

Our school will receive money for every pound collected!

We will be collecting Wearable & Usable:

- Clothing (men's, women's & children's)
- Linens (beddings, curtains, towels)
- Hard Toys
- Stuffed Animals
- Shoes, Belts and Handbags

Simply place all donated goods into tightly wrapped plastic bag(s)
& drop off at the school by the gym.

Drop off dates are: October 19, 20 & 21
(All items need to be dropped off by 12pm on the 21st)

Our goal is OVER 200 Bags! Let's fill the truck!

