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MARK YOUR CALENDAR
January 5:  All Schools Open
January 5:  H & S Mtg, 6:30 PM
January 12:  Market Day Pickup
January 13:  Chick Fil A Night, 5 PM
January 13:  School Board Meeting, 7 PM
January 14:  Davis National Geographic Bee, 1:30 PM
January 19:  School Closed
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
January 22:  Skate Night, 6:30 PM
January 23:  Ice Cream Social, 6:30 PM
January 26:  Education Committee, 6 PM
January 26:  Finance Committee Mtg, 7 PM
January 27:  School Board Meeting, 7 PM
January 28:  End of Marking Period
January 30:  All Schools Closed
In-Service Day

From the Principal

Dear Davis Families,

It’s hard to believe we have completed the first three months of school. It has been exciting to see the children come to school excited and ready to learn. The staff at Davis is thankful for the opportunities we have been granted to impact the lives of your children. Our students are the reason we’re here.

It was so nice to see and speak with our Davis Families during American Education Week. The students and teachers were excited to share some of the wonderful and exciting learning opportunities that occur at Davis. Your attendance at the first marking period conferences is proof of the marvelous home – school partnership at Davis.

In addition to the instructional activities that will take place this month, we have the Winter Concert, School-Wide Sing Along, and Dr. Mundy, Superintendent of Schools, will visit Davis on December 5th for her 2nd Cup of Coffee Event. For the parents who were unable to attend the Principal’s Meet and Greet during American Education Week, I will host an evening Meet and Greet on December 1st. We will meet prior to the Home and School Meeting from 6:10-6:30.

Dr. Devitt and I wish each of you a happy and healthy holiday season!

Shawanna James-Coles

From the Health Room

I have a few outdoor clothing suggestions for school and recess for those cold months ahead. You may want to think about having your child keep chap stick in his or her backpack for school. Also, using hand lotion or Vaseline on your child’s face when playing out in the cold is helpful to prevent chapped cheeks and areas around the mouth and chin. If your child is prone to nose bleeds, putting a little Vaseline on each nostril may help keep these to a minimum.

As many of you already know, the playground can at times be very windy and this can make outdoor recess very chilly in the winter. We still prefer for all students to go outside for recess. We will limit the amount of time outside as necessary, for low temperatures and inclement weather.

Please make sure your child comes to school prepared for outdoor recess with a warm coat, gloves, and a hat. When we have snow on the ground the children may wear boots. If your child wears snow boots to school, you may want to consider sending in a pair of regular shoes for him or her to wear while inside, so that their feet do not get too hot.

Please remember, if you haven’t already, to talk to your doctor about getting a flu shot for yourself and your child. According to the CDC, the seasonal flu vaccine protects against the influenza viruses that research indicates will be most common during the upcoming season. Traditional flu vaccines (called Trivalent vaccines) are made to protect against three flu viruses; an influenza A (H1N1 virus), and influenza A (H3N2) virus, and an influenza B virus. In addition, this season, there are flu vaccines made to protect against four flu viruses (called “Quadrivalent” vaccines). These vaccines protect against the same three viruses as the trivalent vaccine and an additional B virus. And, as always, hand washing is the number one habit to keep, in the prevention of the spread of germs.

As a reminder, we are still performing our yearly student hearing, vision, height and weight screenings in the nurse’s office. If your child has difficulty with their vision or hearing testing, you will receive a letter indicating the need for further follow-up with a doctor. Each child’s results for height and weight are documented in Skyward under the “Health Info” Tab. You can view your child’s screening for each year and track their growth and Body Mass Index (BMI). A healthy BMI percentile for children is 5% to 85%.

For questions and concerns, please reach out to your school nurse or pediatrician.

Valerie Breiner, RN, BSN, Certified School Nurse
215-364-5970 x 15025
**The Counselors’ Corner**

In December, Davis Elementary is excited to announce the beginning of the Community Service Group. This group will come together during recess on Fridays of the B Cycle. It is open to all students in Grades 3, 4 and 5. During this time we will work on projects that will support the Children of Christ’s Home, the Bucks County SPCA, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and The Bucks County Food Cupboard. Permission slips and schedules will come home in the Wednesday express on 11/19. If you have any questions or if you need another form, please contact Mrs. Ward.

Mr. Immerman and Mrs. Ward have recently update the Guidance Website. We invite you to please take a look. Visit the Davis School home page and click on the Teacher Pages tab near the top. You will find the two counselor’s names listed together. Click on their link to view their pages.

**School Counselors**

**Bob Immerman** 215.364.5970, ext. 15031
immero@centennialsd.org

**Christi Ward** 215.364.5970, ext. 15030
wardch1@centennialsd.org

**Pajama Day/Sing-along**

As a kick-off to the winter break, students and staff are invited to wear their favorite pajamas to school (no slippers, please) on Tuesday, December 23. In the afternoon, we will gather as an entire school in the Davis gymnasium for a good old-fashioned sing-along.

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**The Reading Corner**

Join us in welcoming your child to Lexia Reading Core5®, a dynamic, fun computer program that has helped millions of students develop reading skills through personalized learning. The activities and instruction in Core5 are aligned to rigorous English Language Arts standards, including the Common Core State Standards. Our school is using Core5 as part of our curriculum in reading and language arts – and we want you to share in our excitement! Here’s how this award-winning, computer-based reading program works:

- Students complete placement activities in Core5 to determine their appropriate, individualized starting level.

- Students work independently and at their own pace on activities in Core5 several days a week.

- Students develop fundamental literacy skills in six areas of reading instruction that have been identified by national reading experts: phonological awareness, phonics, structural analysis, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

- Students receive scaffolding, corrective feedback, and direct instruction in Core5 when needed.

- Your student’s teacher will monitor his or her progress and performance in the online activities through data reports. These reports help teachers to determine if a student is struggling with a specific skill and requires targeted, teacher-led instruction.

Students may also receive paper-and-pencil activities that provide offline practice to further improve and expand their skills. They may work on these activities in school, or they bring them home to complete as out-of-class work.

*As an added benefit, students can use Core5 at home.
Getting started is easy!*

Launch a web browser and go to [www.lexiacore5.com](http://www.lexiacore5.com).

Create a bookmark or favorite for this web address.

iPad and iPad Mini users can download the Core5 app from the App store. Search for “Lexia Reading Core5.”

Android tablet users can download the Core5 app from the Google Play store. Search for “Lexia Reading Core5.” Note that the app is not available for Kindle.

The first time you access Core5, you must set up:

Click the Student/Parent button.

Type in your teacher’s email and click the arrow button to continue. Allow or help your child to login. The student username is the same login they use at school (graduation year, first 4 of last name, first 2 of first name – ex. 22smitjo the password is the word read.

We hope you enjoy participating in your child’s reading acquisition and success!

**Davis Reading Specialists**

Jen McArdle
Rebecca Jobs
Character Counts

Each week names are drawn from our Character Counts container as a way to recognize and celebrate our students for demonstrating trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.


Reminder

If your child is going to be absent from school, please take a minute or two to contact the school to let us know that your child will not be in attendance on that day. You can either phone the main office (215.441.6000, x15010) and leave a voicemail or you can email your child’s teacher. (If you have completed a trip form, you do NOT need to contact the school as we already have this on file.) By leaving a voicemail or by sending an email, this helps us in keeping track of the students as they arrive and settle in for a day of learning. The phone call or email does not take the place of an absence note. Thanks for your cooperation with this matter.

PSSA Testing Dates

- April 13-24: Mathematics and English Language Arts (Grades 3, 4, 5)
- April 27-May 1: Science (Grade 4)

Inclement Weather

It is not too early to begin thinking about inclement weather. Do you have a plan in place in the event that bad weather causes school to dismiss earlier than usual? Please take time to review your family’s plan with your child. It helps to reduce the anxiety that children often feel when their schedule is changed unexpectedly. Up-to-the-minute information on school closings, early dismissals, and cancellations can be found on local TV and radio stations, eAlerts, and the district website. Reminder: The Centennial School District emergency closing number is 753.

Wednesday Express/eFolder

The Davis Wednesday Express is up and running! Remember to take a few minutes to remove, read, and review the contents when it arrives each week. Your signature on the outside of the envelope lets us know that you received it.

Outstanding Cafeteria Balances

The Food Service Department has a procedure that states that students owing more than the established obligation ($8.00) be provided with a basic, healthy “snack” in lieu of the full lunch when this amount is exceeded. Please note this limit and understand that the cafeteria staff will enforce this procedure. We request that you provide payments in a timely manner. Low balance letters go home weekly in the Wednesday Express envelope. Please contact the school Principal if you have any questions concerning this procedure. Parents can check on their children’s purchase in Skyward.

If you are eligible, free or reduced price lunches are available by completing an application through the Business Office of the Centennial School District. You can also pre-pay for lunch through the “E-Fund” system and credit can be immediately applied to the account. If you need assistance with placing money on your child’s account or applying for free/reduced lunch programs, please contact the Business Office at 215-441-6000 ext. 11013. Thank you for your cooperation.

C.E.F. Info

The Centennial Education Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing the best opportunities for our children, which helps to fund grants throughout the district. Our commitment is that all funds go directly to the students. By investing in our children, we enhance the enrichment of our community’s future.

CEF Annual Giving Campaign

Are you looking for the perfect gift for that special staff or faculty member? Then look no further than the CEF Annual Giving Campaign. You may make a donation, starting as low as $10, in honor of any staff member. The campaign will run from December 1-20, 2014. The staff or faculty member will receive notification that a donation was made in their honor. Your donation will be
Since one in every 88 children is diagnosed with autism, your child is likely to encounter a number of children with the disorder. How you respond to your child’s questions significantly impacts your child’s understanding of this complex disorder, as well as his or her acceptance of individuals with different abilities. Here are some suggestions to help your child understand autism.

Be honest. If you don’t know a lot about autism, tell your child that you don’t know but are willing to find out. Take advantage of your child’s curiosity and seek resources to help. Many children’s books explain autism in a way that young children can understand. Websites contain helpful information for children, parents, and providers.

Know that every child is different. Autism is a spectrum disorder, so no two children with autism are alike. A child with autism might have areas of exceptional talent, as well as areas of deficit. Help your child understand that autism presents itself in variable ways.

Put a positive spin on it. Be careful not to describe individuals with autism as lacking in some important way. Focus on the positive and describe what your child can do to help. For example, say, “Tony is an excellent artist. You can talk about his drawings with him by asking him specific questions.”

When relaying an area of challenge for the child with autism, help your child relate to the experience. You might say, for example: “Remember how it was hard to hear me at the airport over the background noise? Tony is hearing all of the background noises in the classroom and has difficulty paying attention to just your voice. Why don’t you sit down and face him when you talk to him?”

Talk to the child’s parent. Ask the parent for suggestions about how to help your child to interact in a way that will engage the other child. You can also learn about the child’s interests and then share suggestions with your child about conversation starters.

Parents of children with autism seek good peer role models for their children in order to improve their language and social skills. Finding willing peers to interact with their children is challenging, so this could be a good opportunity for your child to be a good influence.

Encourage interaction. If the child acts out or must leave a play date early, reassure your child that this does not mean that he or she did anything wrong. Schedule future play dates so that your child can see the positive effects of his or her interactions over time.

This Report to Parents was written by Melanie L. Bloom.
Silver Spoons

Family Movie Night

Hi

Mr. Mahony's class makes truffles!

Race for Resources

Kid Voting

Operation Shoebox Candy

New waiting area for parents of walkers - thank you CSD Facilities

Peaceful Bus Recipients

Mr. Mahony’s class makes truffles!
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**WINTER BREAK (DECEMBER 24-JANUARY 2, 2015)** School Closed
*School Reopens January 5, 2015*