

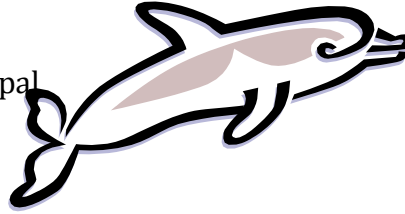
DANIA ELEMENTARY

Vote for Learning, Elect Success!
September 2013

A TITLE 1 SCHOOL

The Dania Dolphin Press

Dr. Lewis Jackson, Principal
Ms. Leslie Phillips, Assistant Principal
Dania Elementary School
300 Southeast 2nd Avenue
Dania, FL 33004
<http://dania.browardschools.com>



School 754-323-5350
Fax 754-323-5390
Attendance 754-323-5352
ASP 754-323-5393
Cafeteria 754-323-5360

Dania Elementary Mission Statement:
Providing the highest quality education to all students.



Dear Parents and Community Members:

The school year is well under way and we're already through most of the first quarter of the school year. Students should have received their Interim Reports, September 20th, and they will receive their first semester Report Cards, November 13^h. This is an ideal time to discuss academic progress with your child(ren).

Happy Birthday Dania Elementary School! Dania Elementary School is 100 years old! The present school sits on the same site as the original Dania School, built in 1913. We will be hosting several commemorative events this year. Our theme this year is ***Celebrating a Century of Learning!*** We will be looking for people who have attended Dania Elementary to share their memories of their school days. Please contact us if you, a relative, or someone you know is interested in sharing and/or perhaps touring our school.

I strongly suggest that parents encourage their children to get involved in school activities. Numerous activities will be available, such as: field trips to nearby educational sites, in-house field experiences to strengthen our academic focus, poster and essay contests, and fund raising events. Dania also offers several clubs: Safety

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Patrol, DEN morning announcements, Student Council, Yearbook Club, and the Global Recycling Patrol. Over 40 of our 4th and 5th Grade students have the opportunity to receive free after school violin lessons.

What an exciting start to another wonderful educational experience!

Sincerely,

Lewis Jackson, Ed. D.
Principal



Points to Ponder from your Assistant Principal, Leslie Phillips

Cafeteria

We are pleased to announce monthly fresh fruit and vegetable tastings at Dania Elementary. Last year, students enjoyed blackberries, veggie sweet peppers, kiwifruit and radishes. Since all students (even those who bring lunch from home) will have the opportunity to taste interesting fruits and vegetables which are not usually served in the cafeteria, please notify your child's teacher regarding food allergies. For students with severe or potentially life threatening allergies please review and follow Health Education Services Guidelines:

<http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/studentsupport/healthservices/html/allergyparents.htm> and notify us.

Fruits and vegetables can be important catalysts for change in the effort to combat childhood obesity by helping children learn more healthful eating habits. Introducing school children to a variety of produce that they otherwise might not sample, teaches students about the wide variety of plant-based foods.

Ronald McDonald House

Last Year, we collected enough can tabs to place in 10th place of all schools in the Ronald McDonald Contest aluminum tab contest.

Collecting aluminum tabs is a fun and easy way to recycle and most importantly, make a difference in the lives of children and their families needing medical care. Please join us in this continuing project by sending in your aluminum can tabs. This is a wonderful way for our students to learn to help others and expect nothing in return.



BoxTops for Education

One ongoing fundraiser that will not cost anything but a little effort is BoxTops for Education. Earn cash for Dania Elementary by clipping 10¢ Box Tops from hundreds of products and sending them in to school. It is surprising how fast those dimes add up. Any funds we receive benefits students. Look for BoxTops for Education Coupons on many of the everyday items you already purchase.

Thank you to the many parents and family members that came to our open house. The teachers enjoyed meeting their student's parents and the student's enjoyed showing off their work.

We continue to need volunteers. Please call Ms. Williams, at 754-323-5350 if you have some time to volunteer. We continue to need help shelving books in the Media Center, cafeteria monitors and tutors to help students. To be cleared to

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volunteer, go to the website: getinvolvedineducation.com

With the implementation to Common Core Standards there is a shift from "what is being taught" to "what the students need to be able to do". The difference in instruction will be:

- *more emphasis on the **use** of knowledge
- *less worksheets and more hands-on doing
- *greater emphasis on real-world application
- *more open-ended questioning
- *problem solving that requires students to evaluate and determine best answers and solutions

When coming on campus you must have a valid Florida driver's license or passport. If you have guests from out of town, they must have a valid state issued picture id. We do not want to turn anyone away from a fun program or honor roll assembly so come prepared. We appreciate your honoring this School Board Policy.

Everyone at Dania Elementary is excited to be **Celebrating a Century of Learning.**



Kindergarten Capers

Ms. Johnson, Ms. McOwen, Ms. Partain
Ms. Wells, Ms. Rocha

Welcome kindergarten parents. Thank you for entrusting your young learner to us and visiting our classes for Open House. Our students have been very busy since school started making new friends, learning our class rules, and getting to know the people and places in our school.

Parents, please make sure your child does their homework on a daily basis - not all in one day. This is setting the foundation for successful learning and goal setting. When homework is done everyday a good habit is being formed☺

First Grade News Flash!

Ms. Fleming, Ms. Harmer,
Ms. Hengge, Ms. Matter, Ms. Lee



First grade has been busy this first month of school. The first grade classes finished a unit on what it takes to be a fantastic first grader. The students learned about Really Safe Rita, Ready To Learn Robert, Responsible Ryan and Respectful Rachel. We are working on our reading skills, as well as adding and subtracting. In science, we are learning about our senses and science tools. We will learn about the scientific process next. Please continue to practice reading and math facts at home each night. It is important that students are fluent in reading and math facts. Don't forget to sign up to be a volunteer at school. Go to getinvolvedineducation.com to sign up! Remember that a homework packet is given at the beginning of each week and needs to be returned by the end of the week. Homework is given to reinforce the skills learned in the classroom and give the students the extra practice that they need.

The Second Grade Scene

Ms. Bohlen, Ms. Sullivan,
Ms. Delmonte, Mr. Reveron

Welcome back parents! The 2nd grade team is extremely excited to kick off this new school year and we are looking forward to a wonderful year of learning.

We appreciate your participation in open house and enjoyed meeting you. Learning is a team effort between school and home so we hope you stay in touch with us often.

Parents, please be diligent in signing all required documents, checking over homework, reading with your child, and supporting your child when assistance or encouragement is needed.

Third Grade News!

Ms. Podesta, Ms. Zeitlin,
Mr. Daley, Ms. Campbell



TEACHER TALK:

Welcome to THIRD GRADE! The teachers are excited to begin a new school year! We would like to welcome our returning and new students to Dania Elementary. During the first quarter, teachers are assessing and instructing your child by creating specific lesson plans geared to maximize strengths and remediate weaknesses. Please plan on meeting with your child's teacher to discuss their progress and academic plan. Feel free to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns. Each teacher will provide you with an email address at Open House; you may also contact the front office and leave a message or write a note in your child's agenda.

Thank you and we look forward to a productive and memorable school year!

STUDENT TALK:

We asked the students several questions during the first week few weeks of school. Here are some of their responses.

Question One: How did you feel the night before school? Explain.

Jaida P. --“ I felt very scared because I thought the other kids wouldn't like me!”

Demari. D. --“ I felt scared the night before school because I thought nobody would be my friend.”

Kiara U. – “I was scared about who my teacher would be. I thought she would be mean. I found out she is nice!”

Question Two: What do you like best about third grade?

Kanye P.—“ So far I like science homework the best!”

Dawit L. –“ I like Cool Math!”

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Gavin G. – “I like third grade because we get to learn to do multiplication.”

Jawone D. – “I like doing tests and math and times-tables so I can get smarter!”

Tavares R. – “I like my teachers. I feel better about myself and my math and reading is getting a lot better!”

Question Three: How can you be a successful third grade student? What is required?

Guido H. – “ You have to have good citizenship, work hard respect others, study and do your homework.”

Alysin V. – “ You should always be nice and try your best!”

Chance R. – “ You have to behave properly and respect others.”

Annabelle S. – “ To be a successful student you need to read to learn, be here every day, be respectful, be responsible and be a bucket filler.”

Giovanni S. – “ Don’t talk when the teacher is talking and don’t play around in class.”



Fourth Grade News

Ms. Little, Ms. Rudnick, Ms. Schweinfurth

Welcome to a new school year parents and students! This year the 4th grade will be rotating between all of the 4th grade teachers for their subjects. Ms. Rudnick will be teaching reading and social studies, Mrs. Little will be teaching math and Ms. Schweinfurth will be teaching writing, science and language arts. As 4th graders, they will be expected to take 3 FCAT’s this year: Writing, Reading and Math and will be required to pass the Reading and Math FCAT in order to be promoted to the 5th grade. This is a crucial year in your child’s education and we, as teachers, have high expectations. Your child should be reading daily, at least 30 minutes a night. It is crucial for your child’s success that they make reading a

habit and complete their homework every night, which will comprise of reading, math and writing homework. Please look at and sign your child’s agenda every day to ensure that their work is being completed and checked. On November 6, 2013 the 4th grade will be taking a field trip to Parker Playhouse to see Charlotte’s Web. This should be an enjoyable learning experience for your child as they watch the story come to life. Please make sure you have filled out and returned the field trip form so that your child can attend this event. We look forward to a fantastic year working with you and your child!



News from Fifth Grade

Ms. Moncrieffe, Ms. Dickson, Ms. Flynn

Welcome to a new school year! We are excited about the opportunity to get to know you and your children, and we are looking forward to a happy and productive school year. This year, our 5th grade team, includes Mrs. Dickson, Ms. Flynn, and Ms. Moncrieffe. We realize that teaching your children is a tremendous responsibility. We will do the best this year to ensure that your children are productive and motivated in the classroom. However, we **cannot** do this alone: we need the parent’s help. We all need to be partners in the learning process.

Parents, we need the students to complete all of their homework assignments, pay attention in class, and study for all quizzes and tests. We encourage you to monitor your children’s daily homework and academic progress. Please make time to conference with the fifth grade teachers to discuss students’ progress.

The fifth grade will have our first field trip to JA BizTown on 10/2/13. JA BizTown encompasses important elements of work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy. Our fifth

graders will participate in hands-on activities such as opening a bank account, receiving a paycheck, writing a check, and performing a job throughout the day. By the end of the day, they will be able to see how the academics we learn at school each day applies to the real world. Please sign up to be a volunteer for our school and field trip.

We have a very busy and exciting year in store for 5th grade! We have lots of fundraising plans this year. Please continue to support our fundraising efforts, as the proceeds will be beneficial to our students. Stay tuned we'll have more information regarding our potential trip to "Islands of Adventure."

Reading Corner

Ms. Gunn

I hope everyone had a relaxing and fun filled summer. We have a very exciting and busy year planned for the 2013-2014 School Year. For the parents of our new kindergarteners and students new to Broward county, Broward County Public Schools provides a very informative website for information concerning *The Common Core State Standards*. You can access that information through Broward County Public Schools or by www.definingthecore.com.

Our Accelerated Reading program is up and running. Students in grades 1-5 read books and take assessments to earn points for their grade level. We acknowledge our top readers in each grade level every month and place their pictures on the bulletin board outside of the Media Center. Students also receive a certificate presented to them on the morning news.

At the end of the year two students are honored as Dania Elementary School's Top Readers. Please encourage your child to participate; we have some very competitive classrooms and students that make the competition a lot of fun.

Please mark your calendars for November 20th for our Family Literacy night. We always have great

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activities for the family and the Book Fair on that night.

If you have any questions concerning reading or your child's reading progress please come by or call me and I will be happy to assist you.



Music Melodies

Mr. Dix

Welcome back parents and students. We have a most promising year set aside for you at Dania Elementary. In the beginning of the year, I like to start with the Percussion Family. We have a nice set of Tubano, Conga and other hand drums. At Dania, the students will learn multiple rhythms. Although all students will be introduced to them, the 5th graders will spend the better part of the 1st quarter exploring rhythms from countries such as Africa and Latin America. In mid October the 5th graders will be asked by Olsen Middle School to participate in their Cultural Day. This is when all of their hard work will be put on display.

In addition to our wonderful traditional holiday performances, we will be adding some new musicals to those performances for our primary grade level students.

Once again, welcome back parents and we hope to see you at the performances.

Physical Education

Coach Selvitella



Welcome Back Students! Our year started off with a huge success doing the Sid Shuffle. Parents, let's make this a family event! Let your child(ren) teach you this dance at home. A dance from The Ice Age Video that is fun, heart healthy, and performed all over the world. The website is www.Utube.com and search for the "Sid Shuffle". I have heard from parents and students how they are enjoying this fun activity at home.

I look forward to a fun, active and healthy year with all my students in physical education class. Don't forget to wear appropriate shoes on PE days.

Stay active!

News from the Art Room



Ms. Dugas

Dear Dania Family,
Lots of exciting news from the Art Room! First, let me tell you that I was awarded a grant for \$400 dollars to start doing more projects using recycled materials in the art room. The money was well spent during the summer buying books about recycling, other books about artists that use recycled materials, storage bins for the supplies and assorted supplies to compliment the artworks. **Now I need your help!** Please start saving materials that could be used in the art room. This year I will be collecting:

Newspapers
Shoe Boxes
Cereal Boxes (flattened)
Thin Cardboard
Small plastic toys
Styrofoam trays
Plastic Salad trays
Corrugated cardboard
Old Childrens' unwanted books
Bottle Caps

Please make sure all materials are clean before sending them to school!

The kiln (pottery firing oven) was serviced and it is ready to use. The students and I are very excited because we will be able to make some fun ceramic projects this year. I actually had some pieces that several students had created last year and tested the kiln and it works perfectly. So their pieces are fired and ready to be painted.

Lastly, and as a reminder to all parents, please keep in mind that art is a messy class. We use materials that are safe for your children, but clothes will get dirty or sometimes stained. I recommend that in order to protect the clothes your children wear, please send a large old T-shirt or an art smock that they can wear during art. Make sure to label the T-shirt or smock with a permanent marker so it won't get lost and remind your children to wear it during Art!

Counseling Corral

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Ms. Jones

My name is Ms. Jones and I am your Guidance Counselor. My job is to help our students, parents, and school employees with concerns that involve our students' well being.

I will be going into classrooms to do lessons about careers, academic skills, and positive social interactions. I will also facilitate small groups helping our student's prepare for testing and learning the necessary skills to increase appropriate classroom behavior. If your child is having a problem in school please encourage them to request to see myself or to speak with their teacher.

The character trait we are focusing on for the month of September is Cooperation!

Cooperation means working with others to accomplish a common purpose. Please encourage your child to come up with ways that they can show cooperation and be responsible. The character trait for October is responsibility which means when you tell someone you are going to do something you actually do it! Some examples are helping with chores, encouraging others, working together, and helping a younger child.

I am available to discuss any questions or concerns you have either by phone or in person.

Please Note the following...

Parents have the opportunity to provide input into the faculty and administration performance evaluations. If you are interested, please provide the Principal with your input in writing by April 30, 2014.

When changing the way your child goes home, please put the request in writing. We can not take requests over the phone. This is for the safety of your child. Thank you for your cooperation.

School Board of Broward County, Title 1 Center for Parent Involvement
701 NW 31st Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Fl. 33311
www.broward.k12.fl.us/titleone/

Broward County's District Parent Involvement Website
<http://www.getinvolvedineducation.com/parents/>

Florida School Choice Parent Resource Center
<http://www.knowyourchoices.org>

Family Network on Disabilities, Inc. (FND)
<http://fndfl.org/>

The Florida Parental Information and Resource Center at the University of South Florida
<http://www.floridapartnership.usf.edu/>

As a parent of a Dania Elementary student it is important that you have input into the program choices made for your child. The best way to do that is to attend the monthly school SAC meetings. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at 5:30 PM in the Media Center. Parent Math Night will follow this meeting. Please plan on participating in both.

If you would like to read a copy of the School Improvement Plan, there is a copy at the front reception desk. You can request a hard copy if you would like.

Our school district is also required to develop a LEA Parental Involvement Plan. The LEA Parental Involvement Plan is available for your review on the Title 1 website <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/titleone/Home.html> You may request a copy of the LEA Parental Involvement Plan by contacting the Title 1 Office at (754) 321-1410.

Dates to Remember



October 23	5:30	SAC/SAF/PTO
October 23	6:00	Math Family Night
October 24		Early Release
October 25		Teacher Planning No School
November 11		Veteran's Day No School
November 13		Report cards Issued
November 18- 22		Book fair
November 20	5:30	SAC/SAF/PTO
November 21		Interims issued

Tips From Title 1

Ms. Burton

It is a federally funded program that provides supplementary staff, instruction, and support services for students who need extra help in reading, mathematics, science and writing. The federal government provides funding to states each year for Title I. The Florida Department of Education sends the money to the district. The school district identifies eligible schools and provides Title I funds.

Dania Elementary implements a school-wide program based on the needs of our students.

As a Title 1 School, there are additional resources available to our families:

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Teachers Updating Skills

Our professional teachers are continuously working on professional development to develop their teaching skills and to increase their levels of content expertise.

We are recognizing teachers at Dania Elementary who are expanding their expertise beyond their current certification by pursuing college coursework and/or training sessions to become certified or endorsed in another/other subject(s).

In order to remain in this/these assignment(s), the teacher will successfully complete required training within 12 months of the assignment or, if teaching the primary English or Reading class to identified limited English proficient students, in accordance with the Multicultural Education Training Advocacy (META) timeline.

These teachers are: Cheryl Burton, Michele Harmer, Patricia Magliocca, Margaret Marigold, Beth Matter, Nicole Schweinfurthh, Dwanda Sullivan, Mateland Thomas and Joyce Williams.

Health News

Want to cut down on the incidents of contracting a cold this season? Here are some tips.

The most effective way is to wash your hands OFTEN. Effective hand washing takes approximately 20 seconds and can be accomplished by singing either "Happy Birthday" or "Row Row Row Your Boat" songs twice while washing your hands. Try to keep your hands away from your face and fingers out of your nose and mouth.

Additionally, drink plenty of fluids (preferably water), try to get 7-8 hours of sleep per night and consume adequate nutrition. Check with your personal care physician about the benefits of getting a flu shot. **NO, YOU CANNOT GET THE FLU FROM TAKING THE SHOT.** That's a myth. Did you know that adults need a "booster" of their childhood immunizations? Yes, it is true and recommended. Also a tetanus booster should be given every ten years.

Backpack Tips

Choose a backpack that is lightweight, has wide, padded shoulder straps, a padded back, a waist belt and multiple compartments to help distribute weight more evenly.

Don't allow children to carry backpacks more than 10% - 20% of their body weight.

Make sure children use both shoulder straps to reduce the risk of straining shoulder and back muscles. Tighten the straps until the pack rests evenly in the middle of the back.

Show children how to bend at the knees and grab the backpack with both hands. when lifting it.

Remember students may not change buses to go home with a friend. Students must ride the bus in which they are assigned.

Don't forget to call in your child's absence. The Attendance Hotline is 754-323-5352.

To apply for Free and Reduced Lunch go to www.applyforlunch.com

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