



December 2019



The DolphIN-

Volume 8 Issue 3
December 2019

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 Whole Grain Cheese Pizza	3 Chili with Meat	4 Chicken Patty	5 Mostaccioli	6 1/2 Day: Dismissal @ 12:00
9 Whole Grain Cheese Pizza	10 Mac & Cheese	11 Hot Dog	12 Taco Salad	13 Cheese Calzones
16 Whole Grain Cheese Pizza	17 Cheese Nachos	18 Chicken Nuggets	19 Cheese Quesadilla	20 Chef's Choice
23 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)	24 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)	25 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)	26 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)	27 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)
30 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)	31 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)			

Mark Your Calendar

December 2-December 13: *i-Ready Diagnostics*

December 3: *Fall Picture Make-ups (Uniforms)*

December 5: *PIC Meeting @ 3:00 p.m.*

December 6: *1/2 Day: Dismissal @ 12:00 p.m.*

December 12: *Progress Reports sent home*

December 18: *School Spirit Dress Down Day*

December 18: *Late Start @ 9:00 a.m.*

December 19: *Winter Party @ 4:00 p.m.*

December 23-January 3: *Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)*

January 6: *Back to School*



Please collect and send in all box tops to your child's teacher.

Mission Statement

The Dearborn Academy is a unique charter school serving a multicultural community through individualized, focused instruction allowing each student to achieve academic excellence and exhibit social responsibility.

Vision

We are an Academy dedicated to academic excellence for our young learners. We are innovative, empowering, and absolutely committed to the continuous social development and academic growth of all students. We establish a school learning environment in which our academic goals are articulated with laser sharp clarity and are regularly monitored.

We provide an academic environment where quality learning is fun and enjoyable. We create an atmosphere of trust and support for all learners where diversity is celebrated and honored. We develop actively involved learners who are building self-confidence and a sense of responsibility to be engaged in the global community.

School Hours

7:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Buses, student arrival, and breakfast begin at 7:15 a.m. Students are sent to their classrooms at 7:55 a.m. (elementary) and 7:50 (middle school).

Children who are late to school (after 8:05) **MUST** report to the office before going to class. We urge you to make every effort to have your child at school ON TIME each day so that your child has a good beginning to their day. When students are late, it disrupts the class as well as causing the tardy student to miss specific directions for the day.

If you need to pick up your child early, we ask that you call the school office at 313-982-1300 a minimum of **ONE** hour prior to arriving.

Principal's Message

It was great seeing you at our Parent Teacher Conferences on November 7th/8th. Please continue to keep the lines of communication open between home and school and contact your child/children's teacher(s) should you have any questions or concerns. It was also wonderful seeing some of you at our Title I Parent Nights on November 14th/15th.

Some gentle reminders:

- Please continue to support your child in their school success by making sure a bedtime is upheld at a sensible hour. Sufficient sleep supports learning, brain development, concentration, and mood and so directly impacts children's success at school.
- As break is only a few weeks away, please remember that school is in session through Friday, December 20th and attendance will be taken and monitored.
- Please remind your child(ren) of appropriate play. Students cannot throw snow nor should they be horse playing, especially when they are outside. This is when issues and/or injuries can happen.

Please enjoy family time over the Winter Break. Take time to snuggle up and read together, play board games, drink hot chocolate, build a snowman and simply be together.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year from our TDA family to yours. Stay safe and see you in 2020!

Reminders

- Please keep the office informed of **ANY** changes in your phone numbers or your address.
- Medication intake policy: *Parents must leave medication with the prescription in the office*
- School uniform is the polo and BLUE or BLACK pants/skirt: **NO JEANS, NO LEGGINGS, NO YOGAS**
- Hoodies must not have any logos except The Dearborn Academy
- Boots are NOT part of the uniform
- Safety is one of the most important issues for our children at The Dearborn Academy. Please report to the office when you are visiting the school.
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The Dearborn Academy Board Meeting

Monday, December 16th @ 4:30 p.m. All are invited!

PK News

As the winter months are approaching, please be mindful of the weather! In order to go outside your child will need a winter coat, hats, gloves, and boots if there is snow. If you need help finding any of these items, please come to us. We are planning to have a few extras in the classroom.

Please make sure that you arrive at school on time for drop-off and pick-up.

In this busy month, we enjoy talking about families, friends, relatives, giving and sharing. We are lucky to have families from a variety of different cultures. Our children are excited to play together, so happy to learn and experience each other's likenesses and differences. We love being around your child/ren, watching them grow, and experiencing their different personalities. We have been working on using kind words, kind hands, words instead of hands during a conflict and manners. Also, we have been working on choosing green choices instead of red choices. Every single child is grasping all of these in some form or another! We encourage all of our parents to do the same at home. Please speak with us before or after school, and we will give you some ideas!

Kindergarten News

Our Kindergarteners continue to work very hard to learn new things. The students have started reading short stories, therefore they continue to work on letter sounds and recognition. We continue to improve writing skills and have started writing words by labeling pictures. All of these things are the first steps in learning how to write sentences.

In math, the students will be working on ABB patterns and numbers 1-10. They will be counting to ten, writing the numbers to ten, matching numbers to pictures, and learning one on one correspondence.

We will be finishing up our Science unit about senses and moving into a new Social Studies unit.

It is very exciting to see the progress the students have made so far. We would like to continue to ask for home support with letter sound, letter recognition, writing, and reading. Support with number recognition, number writing and counting is always helpful too.

Since it is getting colder, please provide the proper outdoor clothing for your child. The children do go outside for recess and therefore need winter coats, hats, gloves, boots, etc. Please feel free to reach out to us if these items are not easily accessible.

Reminders: Homework goes home every Monday and is to be turned in on Fridays.

1st Grade News

First graders have started learning about long ago and today. They will be exploring life long ago and how it's different today. Students should be reading every night for 20 minutes and working on comprehension at home. Keep working on those sight words. First graders have been working on strategies for adding and subtracting within 10 and should be able to add and subtract in multiple ways. Please remember to send your child to school in a heavy jacket, hat, gloves and scarf everyday because as long as weather permits we will be going outside for recess.

2nd Grade News

We are looking forward to an exciting month of December. Please remember to check the calendar with important dates and read every flyer that goes home with vital information. During the month of December, we are learning many exciting new concepts. For example, in math, students will be practicing using numbers within 100 through addition, subtraction, time, and money. In ELA, students will continue working on improving their reading and phonetic awareness. In Social Studies, students will learn about the government. In science, students will learn about pollination.

World Language News

Arabic 8th grade: Students will be introduced to the food unit in Arabic, where they will learn about the different types of food, and recognize cultural practices and products. They will also compare and contrast food from different countries.

Arabic Elementary: Students will continue learning the alphabets along with their long vowels and short sounds, in addition to learning some vocabulary words for each of these letters. Students will be introduced to the holiday unit.

Specials News

I have the pleasure to teach your K-5 child this year! My name is Mounia Sedrati and I am the school librarian at TDA.

Your child visits the library twice a week and if they turned in the signed "Library Use Agreement" they are already borrowing books. The key is to return them on time.

Students are learning to use technology effectively and responsibly. Right now we (4th-5th) are working on using online resources for research, respecting other people's work and soon we will work on creating presentations. Students(2nd-3rd) are developing their dictionary skills. Kindergarten and first graders are enjoying story time weekly and learning about the differences between fiction and nonfiction (informational) books.

I am asking that you always remind your child of the importance of *reading* as it is the door to all skills!

4th Grade News

It was such a pleasure to meet all of you during our conferences!

In science we are in the middle of learning about energy. We are specifically learning about potential and kinetic energy. We will be discovering how roller coasters use these two types of energy.

During math this quarter we will be learning how to multiply two digits by one digit and two digits by two digits. This is a skill that children will use throughout their life. Please make sure your child is practicing their basic multiplication facts at home. If you need flash cards, please be sure to ask your fourth grader's teacher right away.

In social studies, we have been working on a research assignment involving geography. Your student has selected a country of their choice to gather information on. Some features they have researched include landforms and climate. Please ask your child to share their research with you.

This quarter in reading, your fourth grader will begin to read more informational books. These books include autobiographies, magazines, newspapers, and books about people or animals. We would like to encourage your child to be reading informational books at home. If you need help picking out an informational text for your child please let us know, we would love to help!

We are looking forward to a great quarter with your amazing fourth grader!

5th Grade News

Hard to believe we are already nearing the end of 2019. It seems like we were just celebrating the New Year! With winter break approaching we know that you and your children will be taking advantage of the time off to see family and friends and celebrate the holidays. Try not to let your student fall behind though! Studies show that when students have long breaks from school that their learning can actually regress. In order to keep students sharp, try the following activities at home over break.

1. Read for 20 minutes a day: This could be something that you and children do together! Check out the Dearborn Public Libraries for books. The more your child reads the better reader they will become.
2. Practice math facts: In class we have been working hard on multiplication and division facts. Help your child practice by making flash cards out of index cards. Practicing 10-15 minutes a day can help them retain the information for the New Year.
3. Research someone famous: Many students love a certain band, singer, or actor; turn that interest into a research project. Have them look up information about their favorite celebrity online. They can then use the information to write a research paper.

Enjoy your break and we will see you back in 2020! Stay safe!

Middle School News

Math: 6th grade is moving from rates and percent in the real world to the number system and how we have multiple types of numbers.

7th grade is finishing up exploring expressions and moving into equations in the real world.

8th grade is finishing up equations and moving into transversals and how we see transversals when creating city roads.

ELA: Mrs. Finkbeiner's classes are midway through their second unit in Amplify ELA as the month starts. They are hoping to be able to wrap up the unit before the break, which means they will be writing an essay and taking a test on the concepts covered in Units 6B, 7B, and 8B. Be sure to ask your student to show you what they are working on in the Amplify ELA program!

Mr. Forte's 6th grade students will complete the reading on our "Yellow Fever" unit and begin working on an essay to showcase their understanding of our characters. In 7th Grade, students are reading "A Raisin in the Sun," the first Broadway play directed by an African American Female. In 8th Grade, students are reading the powerful narrative of Frederick Douglass and the slavery experience throughout the early 1800s.

SS: Social Studies is always mixing the creativity of students to whatever subject they are studying. We have recently been taking 8th Grade through the creation of the United States Constitution. This is a series of events that helped shape our world today. But the next task - our first presidents Adams, Jefferson, and Madison - is extraordinary. It's like the teenage years of the United States and the country definitely acted like it! The 7th graders on the other hand, have just finished the creation of the first civilizations and are now beginning Empires. Empires are such a culture shock of what they did, how they did it, and the rapid expansion of culture. We are looking individually at the Mesopotamian Empires of Sumer to New-Babylonian because of the importance of their growth and how they compared to others. The 6th Graders have done a great job figuring out what is Geography as a whole and how to create the maps that show our physical and political world. But now we are looking at the people on that map, where they live, and why. It may sound easy but the data that has to be created is not! Social Studies is always, the best subject!

Science: For the month of December, 8th grade will continue its unit on chemistry with "An Introduction to Matter". 7th grade will continue its unit on geology with "Earth's Interior". 6th grade will be continuing its unit on Biology with "What is Life?" All grades will also spend a week on coding. The plan is to begin programming our class set of Sphero robots at the beginning of January and then continue working with them throughout the year. However, it is likely we will have an introduction to the robots before the end of the month.

