



Douglass Elementary

February 6, 2012

From the principal's desk...

Dear families,

Normally our newsletter is sent on Fridays, but our unexpected snow day this week delayed our communication to you all. The communication you received rather early on Friday morning received mixed reviews from Douglass parents – some were OK with an early notification, but others may have appreciated a more timely announcement. It's my understanding that there procedures in place to prevent an early-morning wake-up call from Boulder Valley School District from occurring again.

So we lost a day in February, which already is jam-packed with events – starting with Thursday's science fair. As a reviewer myself, I look forward to seeing the end product of our students' explorations of a meaningful science topic. Reviewers will meet with students on Thursday afternoon, and parents are welcome to view projects on Thursday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening is our annual Family Fun Night – who will be Principal for a Day this year? Let's see who is the lucky student after this year's raffle.

Some classrooms will have Valentine's Day activities this Friday, others will wait until February 14 – look for information from your child's teacher. As always, consider sharing healthy treats with friends for classroom parties.

On Monday and Tuesday, February 13 and 14, our third grade students will begin the reading portion of the new Transitional Colorado Assessment Program (TCAP) – formerly CSAP. I'd like to share with you why this new assessment has come to Douglass and other students in Colorado:

In December of 2009 and August of 2011, the State Board of Education adopted the new Colorado Academic Standards. The Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) was based on the old Colorado Model Content Standards, which does not reflect in any way the new standards. After 16 years, CSAP has concluded its lifecycle.

The TCAP has been designed to measure standards that are common between the old standards and new standards. TCAP will continue to assess the same content areas and grades as CSAP: math, reading and writing in grades three through 10. Science will be assessed in fifth, eighth and 10th grades. As the new Colorado Academic Standards are implemented, we will transition again to the Colorado Assessment Program to evaluate student progress towards mastery of these new standards.

On test days it is especially important that you send your child to school well rested, with a healthful breakfast and on time.

Thanks for all your support of kids at Douglass!

Your principal,

Jon Wolfer

School Calendar

Mon. Feb. 6th	Science Fair Project Due Today Choir-2:35 pm
Tues. Feb. 7th	Tues/Thurs Kdg. Science Fair Projects Due Today Acting 1 for 3rd-5th Graders-2:35 pm
Thurs. Feb. 9th	Acting 1 for 1st-2nd Graders-2:35 pm Science Fair 6:30 pm
Fri. Feb. 10th	Family Fun Night-6:00 pm
Feb. 13th and 14th	3rd Grade Reading TCAP
Feb. 10, Feb. 13, Feb. 14	Kindergarten Pony Express
Wed. Feb. 15th	5th Grade Ellis Island 12:00 p.m.
Mon. Feb. 20th	President's Day- NO SCHOOL
Tues. Feb. 21st	Teacher Work Day- NO SCHOOL
Fri. Feb. 24th	Kindergarten Rodeo 12:00-1:00 p.m.

TCAP Testing Dates

Parents, it is that time of year again when we request that you check our TCAP testing schedule carefully before you schedule appointments or vacations for your children.

Please keep the following schedule handy and make every effort to have students here for all TCAP tests!

3rd Grade

Reading-Feb. 13th & 14th
Math-March 5th & 6th
Writing-March 19th & 20th

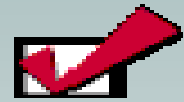
4th Grade

Reading/Writing-March 6th-13th
Math-March 14th-16th

5th Grade

Math-March 5th-7th
Reading/Writing- March 8th-15th

Don't Forget



Thurs. Feb. 9th

Science Fair
6:30 pm in the gym



Fri. Feb. 10th

Family Fun Night
6 pm in the gym



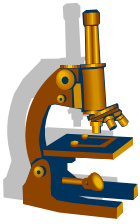
Feb. 13th and 14th

3rd Grade Reading TCAP



Fri. Feb. 24th

Kindergarten Rodeo
12-1:00 p.m.



Science Fair



The Douglass Science Fair is this week!! We hope you have learned a lot putting together your project and that you had fun, too. Here's important information you need to know.

- **Monday, February 6, 2012: Project Due Date**

Students in all classes must bring in their projects for classroom presentations.

- **Thursday, February 9, 2012: The 2012 Douglass Science Fair**

-From 8:45-9:30 a.m. on February 9, all classes will set up their projects in the gym, with the assistance of fifth graders.

-Reviewing will be done in the early afternoon by members of the Douglass community. There will be no "winners" or ribbons. Everyone who participates is a winner by doing a fun and interesting project with good effort.

-From 6:30-7:30 p.m., we'll have an open house for families. When you leave that evening, projects must be removed from the gym and taken home. **We do not want any projects left behind in the gym on Thursday evening.** Parents, before you leave on Thursday evening, please help take down a few tables. Many hands make a large job easy. If you know that you won't be able to attend the evening Science Fair, please bring home the project at 2:30 p.m.

Thanks!

Kenneth Nova, Science Fair Coordinator

Menu Changes Due To Snow Day

Mon. Feb. 6th– cheese or sausage pizza, no secondary choice

Tues. Feb. 7th– macaroni and Cheese, veg du jour: spaghetti squash, secondary choice: hot spicy roast chicken

Wed. Feb. 8th– beef or bean nachos, secondary choice: chili dog

Thurs. Feb. 9th– teriyaki roast chicken or tofu, toasted cheese sandwich, secondary choice: cheese pizza

Fri. Feb. 10th– garlic chicken or cheesy garlic pasta, secondary choice: BBQ pulled pork sandwich



Attention

King Soopers Shoppers!

We'll have a table set-up at Family Fun Night, 2/10, with FREE cards on hand. We'd also like your input on how we can improve the program to make sure we get cards into your hands easily and do everything possible to help with reloading. Let's make the most of this cost effective fundraising tool! Please contact Scott Fincher with questions at (303) 886-0566 or skeoch.s@gmail.com.

Please Remember to Return Your Badges

Please look around your houses, cars, purses and jackets to see if you can find any badges. Many badges were mistakenly not returned to the office and we are now running very low on badges. All visitors at Douglass are required to wear a badge. Thank-you for your help.

The Pony Express

The Pony Express is a yearly event put on by our own Douglass kindergarteners. It is a community service project to raise money for a local charity or organization that serves children and families. The children will be setting up a Pony Express mail delivery service outside the kindergarten classrooms for Valentine's Day. All Douglass students, parents and staff may mail a special valentine card to someone in the school. Postage is 10 cents per item. Please, no gifts, flowers, toys or candy boxes. Only cards and letters will be delivered. Valentines must be clearly marked with the receiver's name and school location.

Don't forget to send a valentine thank you to specialists, office staff, literacy tutors, paraprofessionals, kitchen staff and custodians!

(Remember that that classroom party valentines are not delivered through the Pony Express. Those are delivered by the individual child to his/her classmates free!)

Delivery begins Friday, February 10th and continues through Tuesday morning, February 14th. Mail will be delivered the old fashioned way- on horseback!



Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on March 6th, 8th and 14th. Parents will be able to register for their child's conferences through the Douglass website starting Feb. 17th at 3:00 p.m.

