

Discovery Elementary School

Mike Dudley, *Principal*
Lisa Bailey, *Head Secretary*

2008-2009 School Year
October 25, 2008

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Meridian, Idaho 83646
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Mark Your Calendar...

October 31st :
No School K-8
Building In-service
End of 1st Quarter

November 5th
No School Kindergarten
Parent/Teacher
Conferences

November 6th & 7th
No School K-12
Parent/Teacher Conferences

November 13th
Popcorn Friday

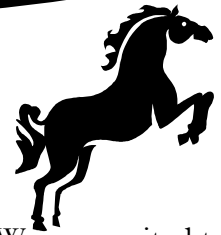
November 26th
Early Release Grades K-12

November 27th & 28th
Thanksgiving Vacation

December 22nd to January 2nd
Winter Break

January 5th
School Resumes

Principal Tribute



Thank you for a wonderful first quarter of our school year! Your children are precious individuals. We are excited to have the privilege to work with each and every one of our students. Discovery Elementary is an adaptive school that not only meets today's challenges but can also effectively handle challenges that emerge in the future. We are willing to create partnerships that develop and facilitate collaborative efforts to improve student success and create an excellent learning environment. We are constantly committed to setting guidelines for the development of skills and processes that help our school to facilitate a collaborative working environment where learning is the goal for all community members, educators as well as students. Thank you for your commitment and support!

Happy Halloween!

Mr. Dudley ☺



Counselor's Corner

Holiday Help

If your family needs a little extra help this time of year, especially during this difficult time with our economy, please contact the school counselor to get more information about receiving **Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes**. In the past, Holy Apostles Catholic Church has also helped with toys at Christmas. This year they're only able to help with a clothing item and family food box. If you would like your child to receive a clothing item, and your family a food box from Holy Apostles, the deadline to contact the counselor is **Monday, November 3rd**. For other food boxes please call by Monday, November 10th. Confidential.

Holiday Help

Christmas gifts are available through Meridian Kiwanis Hope Tree. Contact the school counselor for assistance.

COATS FOR KIDS

If your child is in need of a warm winter coat, please contact the school counselor. Confidential.

Optimists Club Annual Holiday Food Drive November 10-21

Discovery Elementary is having a food drive! Barrels will be placed near the front office Nov. 10-21. Please consider bringing in non-perishable food items (no glass please) to help those in need in our community. Thank you to everyone for helping.

ADHD/ADD Support Groups

For information, please contact the school counselor.

Discovery PTA

Discovery Parents, Students, Teachers and Staff:

Thank you ALL for making the first annual Family Dinner and Basket Auction a SUCCESS! Carrabba's Italian Grill served just under 400 dinners! Magic Man Brad entertained the kids! And our guests won some amazing raffle, silent and live auction items! By our next newsletter we will be able to report totals on the money generated from this event. If you have some great pictures from the Family Dinner/Basket Auction, please email them to our yearbook chairperson: ouryearbook@live.com

For those of you that were not able to attend, we hope that you will try next year! Speaking of next year, I would like to get a small committee together, now, to work on game plan to gather community donations for next year. Many businesses that were approached told us that they needed several months to a year notice on our request. Please get in touch with me if you would like to help with this great event, the more people that volunteer the less "work" each has to do!

Again, thank you parents and teachers for making Discovery such a great place for our children.

Go Mustangs!

Sara Bell, PTA President

NOVEMBER PTA MEETING

The November 4th meeting has been cancelled as there are not any items pressing on our agenda and it is also Election Day. Please use this time to get out and vote!
Next meeting: December 2 at 4pm

Volunteers Needed:
Walmart Bag Recycling Program
Scrip
Spirit Wear

Sally Foster Fundraiser

Netted a profit of \$2366 and counting!
Orders will be in delivered to the school the first week of November. If you're order was received after Monday, 10/20 we will be placing a correction order and those will come in a week later.

Entertainment Book Fundraiser

Netted a profit of \$1440!
Mrs. Jensen (PE) will be able to purchase LaCrosse Equipment for the children and Mrs. Bickford (Music) chose to add Boomwhackers to the musical equipment available to students. Both of these items should be in the school soon!

POPCORN
FRIDAY
NOV 14TH
(1 per student)

BoxTops

Keep em' coming! Teachers will be awarded the money earned!

- Scrip is “substitute money”.
- When your family purchases scrip, you will receive negotiable certificates or cards that can be used like cash to purchase products or services from merchants who have issued them.
- Scrip can be used to purchase anything from groceries, fuel, clothing, toys, and cosmetics to entertainment, electronics, home improvement, or household services.
- Offering freedom of choice and versatility, scrip is also a great gift idea for anyone and any occasion.
- Bottom line - you get to buy your favorite products and services and Discovery Elementary PTA generates much needed funds for our children.

Scrip Order dates: 11/3, 11/17, 12/1, 12/8, 12/15

We’re going to save some trees and will not be sending home order forms, instead, download from our website:

http://elementary.meridianschools.org/Meridian_Area_Schools/Discovery_Elementary/PTA_Information/

Spirit Wear

We now have Zip Hoodies available for \$27. See school website for order form for any of our Spirit merchandise. These also make great Christmas gifts!

Mustang Fridays! Wear your spirit wear, or red/white/blue. You never know when the PTA will show up with a treat for the class with the most school spirit!

Chuck E. Cheese Night

Costs have increased significantly on the yearbooks this year, and our student population is up as well. In an attempt to lower the cost of the yearbook we are having “Chuck E. Cheese” night on November 5th (no school the next day!) See attached flyers for more information.

Yearbook Update
Sponsorship deadline 11/7.
\$48 for a business sponsorship covering 2 pages or an entire class.

Fundraising Event to lower the cost of the yearbook:
See form below

Name of sponsor _____

Phone#/Email _____

Tagline or Message _____

Sponsorship preferences (please rank in order of preference)

Classroom _____(Teacher Name) Discovery Staff Special Events No preference

Please complete order form & make checks payable to “Discovery Elementary PTA”. If you have any further questions, please call Lisa Johnson at 938-3969. (You may turn in the order form to your child’s teacher.)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! Go Mustangs!

Discovery Needs You!

We are looking for a few more copy mom's to help make photocopies in our busy workroom.

Please Contact the office for more details.



From the Library!

I would like to thank all the Discovery Families and Discovery Staff for all their support during Book Fair. It was a great success!

KEEP READING!!!!!! ~ Mrs. Campbell

Report Card Information

Instruction, Practice, and Evidence of Mastery

Each grade has specific expectations for what students should know, understand, and be able to do. These expectations are called Standards. Students master these Standards through a cycle of instruction and practice. After providing multiple opportunities to practice, teachers will measure, or gather evidence on, where students are in their level of mastery of the material taught. This evidence may be an assignment, a test, a center activity, or a one-on-one discussion. The goal is for each student to master, or show expertise in, grade level content. This mastery is designated with the performance score of 3. We want all students to have a strong foundation in grade level standards. With mastery of this foundation, students will be prepared to build additional mathematics expertise.

Practice and Evidence

Students master grade level standards through instruction and practice. When new learning occurs, opportunities to practice need to be provided. These practice opportunities are not used to measure a student's mastery of the standards. When your child brings home a paper with "Practice", "P", or some other indication of practice written at the top, it means that the student completed the work and the teacher has reviewed the work to help determine what comes next in instruction and learning.

After instruction and practice, there is a check for understanding.

Evidence of understanding could be a worksheet, a test, a center activity or other classroom work. The evidence work is scored in relation to the grade's Performance Standards to determine the student's level of mastery of grade expectations.

Any work used to determine student expertise will have "Evidence", "E", or some other indication written on it.



Important Announcement!

The school lunch calendar that went home with your student at the beginning of the year has an error on it.

It states that November 13th and 14th are Parent Teacher Conferences and that there is no school on those days.

This is incorrect. Parent Teacher Conferences are November 6th and 7th - there will be no school on either of these days.

Please be sure to send your kids to school on the 13th and 14th!

Safety and Procedures

Please use the parent drop-off zone (not the bus unloading zone) for **quick** loading and unloading of students only. Cars should not sit idle for very long and should never be left unattended in this area. Utilize our guest parking should you need to leave your car to deliver your child to class, or to enter building. Students who are exiting their parent's vehicle need to do so on the curbed side of the car – NOT on the left side where they could be struck by a passing vehicle. Walking students are required to always use the crossing guard. Although it may seem difficult at times to adhere to the rules, they are always designed with the purpose of keeping our children SAFE at Discovery. Thank you for your cooperation.

2 in 1 - Shopping and Helping Our School!

We've discovered a terrific way to raise funds for our school. It's super-easy, and all you have to do is use your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. We will receive a percentage of the amount of each purchase in the form of a cash donation from Target through the Take Charge of Education® program. It's easy. Just visit target.com/tcoe, or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school. So if you're going to Target anyway, please consider using your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. Big thanks to those who are already doing their part to make a great school even better.

Red Ribbon Week

Nov 10-14 kicks off Discovery's "Thankful to Be Drug Free" Red Ribbon Week

Some fun things to look for are red bracelets for staff & students, daily drawing prizes for students, door decorations, and the following dress up days:



Monday - Sports Clothes - Team Up Against Drugs

Tuesday - Tropical Clothes - I'd Rather be in Hawaii Than Doing Drugs

Wednesday - Mix It Up Fun Clothes - Don't Get Mixed Up with Drugs

Thursday - Hat Day - Hats Off to Healthy Living

Friday - All Red Clothes - Drug Free, That's Me

*Have fun celebrating
Discovery's commitment
to living a healthy
lifestyle!*