

February 2012



Dehesa Charter School Broadway Learning Center December Newsletter



SCIENCE FAIR WINNER: Andrew Tacker, 2nd grade

Our very own Andrew Tacker in Ms. Faith's class won Dehesa's Science Fair! Andrew's hypothesis was: do torsion catapults throw lighter objects farther? The catapult was rated for use with objects five grams or heavier. So Andrew tested five objects: a fishing bobber (less than five grams), a bell (five grams) and three other heavier objects (an eraser, a rubber frog, and a ball). He found that his hypothesis was false, as the bobber did not go the furthest — the bell did, the second heaviest object.

Andrew's father was given the catapult for Christmas, but Andrew enjoyed playing with it so much that it that he let him have it. Andrew came up with the science fair project himself while experimenting with the catapult. Great job, Andrew! We're very proud of you!

A Note from Tony Drown Escondido Regional Manager

Hi Parents!

Welcome to Spring Semester!
All of us here at the Escondido Primary Learning Center are looking forward to the teaching and learning that will take place over the next few months.

On behalf of the staff members, we want to thank you for the opportunity to work together in the education of your students - they are a great bunch of young people!

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me or your child's teacher. Also, please check your emails and/or [visit our new website](#) for updates and new information. Thank you!

Upcoming Events

- 1/30—2/3 Parent Meeting Week
- 2/10 Friday K-2 has no class
- 2/16 Box Tops for Education due (collection box in front office)
- 2/17 Friday K-2 has no class
- 2/20-24 Presidents Week—LCs closed
- 2/27-3/2 Parent Meeting Week
- 3/2 Add/Drop Deadline
- 3/6-7 STAR Test

Classroom Updates

K-2 by Amanda Nichols & Govinda Plummer, 6th grade

The K-2 kids had a packed month! They have had a great time learning about fish and how they defend themselves. They have started studying the difference between reptiles and amphibians, including their habitats. They are making books about the parts of frogs and plants, and working on hemisphere maps. They are also tracing metal insets and labeling geometric shapes, creating patterns and designs inside them. And last but not least, they are listing



the U.S. presidents.

3rd & 4th Grade by Kaiden Baldi, 6th grade

The fall semester has just ended. Ms. Bright's class has been studying about rocks and minerals. One of their favorite experiments was making crystals with salt. They've also written their own fables.

In Ms. McGee's class they're having fun with arts and readers theater. They've been learning about the pop artist Keith Haring. One thing that they did was replicas of



Keith Haring's dancing people.

For readers theater, they've done seven plays! They did a funny spoof of dancing with the stars. My brother Asher wrote and performed his very own one-man play.

Unfortunately Ms. McGee will no longer be teaching the third and fourth grade class. The kids are really going to miss Ms. McGee, but are really excited to get to know Ms. Nicole.

5th & 6th Grade by Gopa Ahoinghoff, 5th grade

What we have done in our fifth and sixth grade class last month! *(continued on next page)*

Parent Corner

Our Annual Winter Family Potluck was a great way to start our holiday season. Thank you, Mrs. Radunsky and Mrs. Moscato for directing the music for the Kindergarten classes. Our Variety Show, Readers Theater (The Grinch) and Kindergarten Chorus were a big hit! We have a tal-

ented group of kids at our school.

February starts our second semester and we are excited! We have lots of fun activities coming your way and great Spirit Days too!



We want to say "WELCOME" to Ms. Nicole. She will be taking over for Mrs. McGee on Tue/Thurs for our Readers Theater and Art class but will continue on Mon/Wed. The third and fourth graders will miss you Mrs. McGee!



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Having a Dog! By Hannah Behymer



When I got my dog Smokey, I thought that it was going to be easy. I was wrong! It is very hard to take care of a dog. Sometimes I wish I did not have my dog and on the other hand, I feel like Smokey is my best friend.

Some of the things that I do not like about having a dog is:

1. Cleaning up his doggy duty.
2. He is hard to train.
3. He jumps up on me.
4. He likes to "play" bite.
5. He makes a mess in the garage.

Some of the things I like about having a dog is:

1. He likes to be hugged.
2. He likes to give kisses.
3. He likes to run with me.
4. He likes to play on the play-set.
5. He likes to meet other dogs.
6. He listens to me when I need a friend to talk to.
7. He likes to turn his head from side-to-side. It's so cute!

I guess you could say that I like having a dog more than I don't like having a dog.

I know some of the reasons are hard. I know that picking up doggy duty — you get better at it. I know that I just need to train him and then he won't jump and bite.

So it's very fun having a dog and it's very nice having a dog. But a dog is work. And work is hard. But when you have a dog and he loves you, it doesn't matter. He's worth it.

So if you ever get a dog, be kind to him and he'll be kind to you.

5th/6th Grade, continued: We did a Readers Theater Greek mythology play called "Perseus", about the son of Zeus (the god of all gods in Greek mythology). In creative writing, we created a new world, writing about the people, animals, plant life, schools, bathrooms, bedrooms, and food.

Also we have to write a fictional story under 20 pages, you either make a new one or use an old one and make it better. Our whole class is entering Dehesa's Writing Contest.

For math we do five minute fact frenzy. We also did cookie mining, looking for coal (chocolate chips), and cake core sampling for science. The cake was layered like the earth is, with red at the bottom of the cake like earth's hot core.



Dear Chloe Advice for the Homeschooled

Dear Chloe,

I don't get paid for doing my chores but my friend does. What can I do?

Sincerely, Cinderella

Dear Cinderella,

Just deal with it.

Except you're probably hoping for a better answer than that if you're writing to me! Have you asked your parents why they don't pay you?

If your parents can't afford to pay you an allowance, there's not much you can do about it. But they may think they already buy you enough stuff and you don't need an allowance on top of it. You might change their mind by saying that you want to learn to be more responsible, and spending money wisely is one way to learn to do that!

Sincerely, Chloe

Valentine's Day Craft from Monique Garcia, 6th Grade

We are so close to Valentine's Day, I've decided to write a Valentine's Day craft. We are going to make Inchworm Valentine's Day Cards.

What you will need:

- Pink card stock
- Green colored tissue paper
- Craft foam shapes or other decorative items

- Tiny googly eyes
 - Scissors
 - Glue
 - Large paintbrush or pencil
1. Draw a large heart on a pink sheet of paper and write, "Valentine, you inched your way into my heart."
 2. Cut two slits about one inch apart in the middle of the heart.
 3. Make the tissue paper inchworm by twisting it, then glue googly eyes and a tongue on one end of the worm and stick it into the slits.



Cherry Pie shared by Govinda Plummer, 6th Grade

Ingredients:

Filling:

- 4 cups fresh cherries (frozen will work, but canned cherry pie filling will not)
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 4 tablespoons flour

Crust

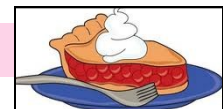
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup butter

Directions:

For filling, in a medium bowl, mix cherries, granulated sugar and flour.

Prepare a 9-inch-by-13-inch baking pan by spraying it with cooking spray or by wiping the inside with canola oil. This prevents sticking. Pour the cherry mixture into the pan.

For the crust, combine the rest of the flour, rolled oats and brown sugar in a second bowl. Cut in butter until crumbly using a pastry



blender or gloves (plastic or latex for food preparation) and crumble the mixture with your hand until it is about the size of large peas.

Sprinkle the mixture of oats, sugar, flour and butter over the cherry mixture in the pan.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Place baking pan on a cookie sheet and bake for uncovered 45-50 minutes or until topping is golden brown. Serve warm with whipping cream or vanilla ice cream.