

November, 2012**Volume 2****Principal's Pen**

Dr. Wayne Richardson



A Day in the Life of Deer Valley -
Overwhelmed and Loving It!

By the time you read this article
it may be completely out of date.
Things move quickly around here.

The other day, I decided to walk down the hall, pop into some rooms, and report back a typical day in the life of Deer Valley. Before I say anything about that, I just have to say: I love my job! The energy around this place is mind-boggling.

First, there are the students! As I walked from room to room, I observed students participating in all types of learning: math games, readers' theater, movement exercises, rock climbing, musical recitals, art projects, team building assignments, problem solving scenarios, model building, book publishing, broadcast production, experimenting, collaboration on a novel project, preparing for a field trip, multimedia creation, and a literature discussion. In every classroom, students appeared happily engaged in their learning. They were respectful and helpful to their teacher and to each other.

Second, there are the teachers. Conversations in teacher meetings revolved around better ways to engage students in their learning. Activities were shared among colleagues and student victories were celebrated. Individual teachers met me in the hall to discuss our Explorers program, our upcoming school election, our spelling bee and ideas to recognize students' accomplishments. Later in the day groups of teachers convened to coordinate Parent University and an upcoming patriotic program.

Third, there are the parents. Deer Valley has one of the most active volunteer programs in the city. Par-

In this issue

Change for Cheetahs	2
Cheetah Charge	3
Deer Valley Dance Crew	3
Body Trek	4
Parent University	4
Pop Tabs	4
Health Room Reminders	5
In the Classroom	6
Library News	8

ents were working with students, selling yearbooks, shelving books in the library, manning the front desk, making copies, and serving as guest readers. There is no way that I could begin to list everything that our parent volunteers do... you name it, they have probably done it.

And finally, there is the entire community of Hoover! The Hoover Fire Department "Smoke House" and the "Water Shed Man" were the resources that I saw there that particular day. However, individuals from our community contribute here in so many ways throughout the year. We will have performers/speakers from UAB, the Hoover Library, and the Civil Rights Institute, just to name a few. The upcoming Science Phun Week is sponsored by the American Physiological Society as well as students and professors from UAB, including one of our wonderful parents. Body Trek is another program sponsored by some of our community partners. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama and Children's Health Systems created Body Trek, and when it comes to Deer Valley it will depend on our incredible parent volunteers to supervise.

Truly, leading a school like this is like being a flashlight salesman on the surface of the sun. I know how blessed I am, and I hope I never take that for granted.

Our first annual Change for Cheetahs Coin Drive was a great success!

Our teachers did an outstanding job of using this fundraiser as a hands-on learning experience for our students. Coins were used to teach math and money concepts and to even grow bacteria for a science experiment.

We raised \$25,815.75 because of your great generosity. The PTO is happy to announce that this concludes our fundraising efforts for the 2012/2013 school year!

We look forward to having this awesome week of learning and friendly classroom competition again next year. So keep saving and earning your change!

Kristy Glover
PTO Fundraising Chair



**Change for Cheetahs Champions
Mrs. Culpepper's class**



We'd like to thank America's First for sponsoring our piggy banks.

Kindergarten	Total	1st Grade	Total	2nd Grade	Total	3rd Grade	Total	4th Grade	Total
Aho	\$509.15	Barton	\$704.26	Allen	\$826.72	Baker	\$575.25	Chiaramonte	\$564.76
Freeman	\$581.04	Cronican	\$730.34	Bucki	\$556.65	Black	\$623.07	Culpepper	\$1,014.78
Irvine	\$389.81	Curtis	\$708.10	Lindsey	\$711.20	Cobern	\$657.41	Douglas	\$592.89
Keeney	\$516.65	Flowers	\$219.53	Nichols	\$525.60	Edwards	\$613.91	Dunbar	\$416.58
Mathis	\$545.93	Griffin	\$722.16	Pearlstein	\$591.84	Fehler	\$572.47	Griffin	\$466.17
Sisk	\$790.63	Hulsey	\$477.09	Sherman	\$859.97	Seymour	\$664.96	Hinds	\$397.70
Slay	\$594.98	Sulenski	\$797.53	Sides	\$919.59	Stokes	\$785.97	McCune	\$735.45
Stanbury	\$696.00	Taylor	\$993.62	Woolard	\$713.88	Trammell	\$568.08	Wilcox	\$475.10
				Wallace	\$408.55				

2012 Cheetah Charge

The 2012 Cheetah Charge will take place on November 9! Students who are participating will receive their t-shirts the day before the race. Students who are racing will wear their shirts the day of the race to show their school spirit!

The race schedule is as follows:

4th 8:15
3rd 8:30
2nd 8:45
1st 9:00
K 9:15



Awards Ceremony at 9:30 in the gym!

Deer Valley Dance Crew

This year we will have auditions for the Deer Valley Dance Crew. The dance crew is comprised of 4th grade students only. Auditions will take place the week of November 12-16. Students who wish to audition will need to stay after school on Tuesday, November 13 to review the dance for auditions and to sign up for an audition day/time later in the week. Audition times will be from 3-3:30. The audition dance will be from Beyonce's "Let's Move in School" which can be found on www.youtube.com. Last year's DVDC was fantastic and I am looking forward to teaching this year's crew to shake their groove thing! For more information or questions, please visit my teacher page at:

<http://cemerson.wiki.hoover.k12.al.us/home>

Teacher Luncheons



We'd like to thank the Room Mom's and parent volunteers for putting together our teacher luncheons and watching classes so we can show our fantastic teachers how much they mean to us.



Your PTO Dollars at Work

Your fundraising efforts bring improvements to our school. Our students and staff benefit from your help.



New Flat Screen in our Library



The Reading Lounge



New Conference Room

Volunteers Needed for Body Trek

Body Trek is a mobile, free-standing unit that travels to schools in the surrounding Birmingham area. It is an interactive cooperative educational program of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama and Children's of Alabama.



Deer Valley is excited to have the unit at our school this year on November 11-13 and November 26-December 13. All students will have the opportunity to experience this series of hands-on stations that will make learning about their body and making healthy choices interesting and fun.

Deer Valley is required to have 14 volunteers each day for three weeks to staff the exhibit. We need all parents, grandparents and friends of Deer Valley to sign up to volunteer. Many volunteers say this is one of the most exciting volunteer opportunities they have experienced at school! To volunteer for a time slot, please go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BOD4DAAA2EA46-body>.

Parent University

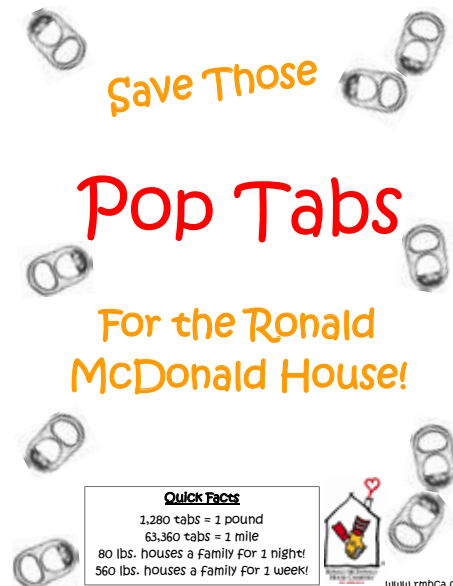
In order to prepare DVES students and parents for a successful and positive E-Learning Day on Nov.3, teachers and staff planned and implemented two Parent University nights, Oct. 23 and Oct. 25. At these events, teachers and tech coaches from the district informed parents about Edmodo, Internet Safety, Twitter, and useful websites/apps to support their children's learning at home. Barnes and Noble, Best Buy, Starbucks, Costco, Sams, Chick-fil-a, and Walgreens were among the many vendors that contributed to make these nights a huge success.



Save those Pop Tabs

Deer Valley will once again be collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Please save those tops and have your child bring them to school to deposit in the red RMH bins located near the front office.

We have registered to participate in the 2013 Pop Tab Pandemonium Contest. Students, faculty and staff can collect pop tabs all throughout the year and compete against other schools for the title of 2013 Pop Tab Pandemonium School Champion! The contest will end on April 30, 2013. The winning school, which will be determined by the highest average pounds of tabs per student, will receive a school assembly with Ronald, a trophy and prize drawings.



Health Room Reminders Karen Fuller, RN

Difference Between the Cold and the Flu

Sometimes, it is difficult to tell whether we have a cold or the flu. The symptoms we get during a viral illness are often the body's attempt to get rid of the virus. Sneezing gets rid of the virus from the nose, cough from the lungs and throat, vomiting from the stomach, and diarrhea from the intestines. Fever makes it difficult for the virus to reproduce. While colds and flus may overlap, the differences between them are important.

Symptoms of the cold include:

- The common cold is centered in the nose
- The 3 most frequent symptoms of a cold are nasal stuffiness, sneezing, and runny nose.
- Throat irritation is often involved (but not with a red throat).
- Adults and older children with cold generally have minimal or no fever. Infants and toddlers often run a fever in the 100 to 102 degree range.
- Depending on which virus is causing the cold, the virus might also produce headache, cough, postnasal drip, burning eyes, muscle aches, or a decreased appetite.
- Within 1 to 3 days, the nasal secretions usually become thicker and perhaps yellow or green – this is a normal part of the common cold and is not a reason for antibiotics.

Symptoms of the flu include:

- With the flu, you are sick all over.
- Classically, the flu begins abruptly, with a fever in the 102-106 degree range (with adults on the lower end of the spectrum), a flushed face, body aches, and marked lack of energy.
- Some people have other systemic symptoms such as dizziness or vomiting.
- Somewhere between day 2-4 of the illness, the "whole body" symptoms begin to subside, and the respiratory symptoms begin to increase.
- The virus can settle anywhere in the respiratory tract, producing symptoms of a cold, croup, sore throat, bronchiolitis, ear infection and/or pneumonia.



- The most prominent of the respiratory symptoms is usually a dry, hacking cough.
- Most people develop a sore (red) throat and headache.
- Nasal discharge and sneezing are not uncommon.

For the quickest recovery from the flu, get plenty of rest; drink fluids like juice, water or hot tea and take Tylenol, Motrin, Advil, ibuprofen, etc. for muscle aches and fever. Do NOT give aspirin to a child or teenager who has the flu. A doctor can also prescribe certain antiviral medications. These medications may make symptoms milder if taken within 1 to 2 day(s) of when the symptoms begin.

There are steps you can take to prevent spreading influenza to others:

- Wash hands often, especially after coughing, sneezing and wiping or blowing nose.
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing
- Use paper tissues when wiping or blowing the nose: throw tissues away after each use.
- Stay away from crowded living and sleeping spaces, if possible
- Keep hands away from eyes, nose and mouth.

A sick child is advised to stay at home during the first days of illness when symptoms are most severe and the infection is contagious. He/She can return to school when his/her temperature has been less than 100 degrees for 24 hours without the help of any medication to help him/her be fever free.

If your child has been diagnosed by a doctor with the flu, please let the school know as soon as possible. We are keeping documentation of how many doctor diagnosed cases of influenza that we have.

The best way to avoid getting the flu is to get vaccinated against it!!!

Information obtained From CDC.gov

In the Classroom



Reptile Cuisine

On Friday, September 28th, the second grade students were treated to something special: Reptile Cuisine! Dr. Julia McCaffrey, owner of Reptile Cuisine, brought many animals to DVES for an in-house field trip to enhance our animal studies unit. Dr. McCaffrey has a “zoo” of her own at home with a veterinarian as part of her staff. She and her staff breed and sell various types of animals. The second graders were delighted and disgusted at some of the things she brought. Even the teachers enjoyed the fun.



Special delivery!! The babies are here.

Second graders in Mrs. Woolards’ class have completed their timelines and they are on display along with the babies in the “nursery.” Students filled in important information on themselves such as weight, length, hair color, eye color, and date and time of birth on a form that is placed near their “baby.” Students and parents made sure that the sand babies weighed the same amount as the child when they were born. Some children were surprised at how much, or how little they weighed at birth.

Pictured with their babies are Carson Bradshaw, Akif Dhanai, Marina Moore, Daniel Hernandez and Zachary Irvine (kneeling).



Our Lakeshore Foundation Field Trip

2nd Grade

By: Lynne Lindsey, Teacher

Mrs. Dunbar's fourth grade students Aaliyah Johnson, Abby Turner, Emily Knerr, and Lilly Gels

Our class is writing a novel about Paralympians. On October 18th, we went to Lakeshore Foundation to get information about two paralympians and where they train and work. We learned that Lakeshore Foundation is a place where any person with a disability can go to play sports, get exercise, train, or for rehabilitation. When we got there, Mr. Veazey greeted us and took us into the gym. We got to meet our friend Mary Allison Milford who came to see us at Deer Valley a few weeks ago so we could interview her. Miss Milford is paralyzed from the waist down so she moves around in a wheelchair. This time she was in her basketball wheelchair so she could show us her basketball moves.

We watched as she leaned back in her chair to shoot. We cheered when she made the baskets. She can't lean back the same way in her every day chair or she would fall down. Her basketball chair was made especially for her to play basketball. It has two extra wheels and the big wheels are slanted 18 degrees inward. Her every day chair's wheels are straight up and down. With her basketball chair she can spin and start and stop really fast.

After seeing Miss Milford, Mr. Veazey took us on a tour through Lakeshore so we could see how the people train. We passed the weight room where Miss Milford and other athletes lift weights to get strong. We saw a laboratory where they run tests. Mr. Veazey showed us the climbing wall that members can use. The pool at Lakeshore was very hot and we saw special classes going on. It had an incline so members can walk right in. Miss Bruder told us later that the pool is a calm and relaxing place.

After the tour, we met Aimee Bruder. She is a Paralympic swimmer who has cerebral palsy. Both she and Miss Milford have won medals at several Paralympic games. Miss Bruder taught us that we aren't that different. We just look different. She reminded us that she is no different than anyone else. She likes to focus on her dreams and abilities. She told us, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try, try again!"

We will always remember our trip to Lakeshore. We learned a lot of information, and we also learned to never give up on our dreams. Our dream as a class is to publish our novel this spring. It's going to take hard work, but it will pay off!



Library News



Author Visit for K, 1st, & 2nd Grades

Michelle Nelson-Schmidt, an author and illustrator from Atlanta, shared her message loud and clear. Every student is special at Deer Valley. By not allowing the “what-if’s” to take over in our mind, anything is possible. She shared her large paintings on canvas and inspired the students to start writing books now!

Mrs. Lieber and Ms. Koch were so proud when the author said how impressed she was with DV students and the school itself. After a tour, she commented “Do the students know how lucky they are here? It’s obvious this school promotes a love of reading.” We all know DV is an environment that shares the joy of books.

Thanks to Usborne rep, Kelly Akers, for helping with this visit. Also, we’re grateful to the following businesses that helped support this author visit: Parent Teacher Store, Chelsea Animal Hospital, Holiday Inn, Rockett’s Bug Juice Gardens, Vision Gymnastics, and Stephanie Fisher Photography.

Grades 3 and 4 will have an author visiting in November. PTO is sponsoring this visit.

Dress Like Your Favorite Book Character has been rescheduled for Tuesday, February 26th. Fine Arts Night will take place this evening as well. A lot of the artwork will connect to children’s books.



New Books

The library has added a lot of new books to our collection. The kids have been so excited. We have a suggestion can for students to suggest titles to purchase. We were fortunate to purchase almost all of the titles suggested by students. Also, Mrs. Lieber has ordered several new biographies for the upcoming research reports in 2nd and 3rd grade.

Deer Valley Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization 2012-2013

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Fundraising Director	Kristy Glover
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Volunteer Director	Jo Ellen James
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Assistant Year Book	Lee Kate Hamff
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Teacher Representative	Racquel Lieber
Principal	Wayne Richardson
Assistant Principal	Ami Weems

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(Board policy, 6.6) No student will be unlawfully excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination in any program or activity offered or sponsored by the Board on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, disability, creed, national origin, sex, immigrant or migrant status, non_english speaking ability, or homeless status. All career and technical education opportunities are offered to all students regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability.

Dr. Barbara Mayer, IDEA Coordinator
 Dr. Tara Ferguson, Section 504 Coordinator
 Dr. Deborah Comp, Title II Coordinator (grades K-5)
 Ron Dodson, Title II Coordinator (grades 6-12)
 Dr. Barbara Mayer, Title III Coordinator
 Carol Barber, Title IX Coordinator
 Hoover City Schools
 2810 Metropolitan Way
 Hoover, AL 35243
 (205) 439-1000

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(Board policy, 513.1) The Board is an equal opportunity employer. Personnel actions and decisions will be made without regard to factors or considerations prohibited by federal or state law (as such laws may from time to time be amended), including but not limited to race, gender, age, disability, national origin, citizenship, and religious preference. Subject to the limitations set for in 4.6.2, the general complaint (grievance) policy (4.6.1) may be used to present any complaint alleging unlawful discrimination or harassment. Inquiries regarding compliance and complaint procedures can be directed to:

Mary Veal, Equal Opportunity Employment Coordinator
 Hoover City Schools
 2810 Metropolitan Way
 Hoover, AL 35243
 (205)439-1000

4990 Ross Bridge Parkway
 Hoover, AL 35226
 Phone: 205.439.3300
 Fax: 205.439.3301

Dr. Wayne Richardson, Principal
 Ami Weems, Assistant Principal
 School calendar:

<http://deervalleyelem.al.hce.schoolinsites.com/>

Leaving a mark on our
 School and Community.

This monthly newsletter of the
 PTO of Deer Valley Elementary is
 produced with help from faculty
 and parents of DVES. We welcome
 your comments and submissions.

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