

Denmark Viking District Newsletter

Issue #6

March 2009



SNOW DAYS

In order to make up the days of school cancelled due to inclement weather, the School Board has decided to extend two half days of school to full days and to add one full day to the end of the school year, June 5. Originally scheduled to be half days, May 22 and June 4 will now be full days.

May 22, 2009 - Full Day of School

June 4, 2009 - Full Day of School

June 5, 2009 - Full Day of School

THE SCHOOL OF OZ

by Julie Schultz



The students in Ms. Julie Schultz's fifth grade classroom performed the play The School of Oz. The play is about Dorothy trying to find her way back to Denmark Elementary School after getting hit in the head by a football. Dorothy ends up in Munchkin Land. Glinda, the good witch, informs Dorothy that to get back to Denmark Elementary, she must go to Emerald City to ask the Wizard for help. Dorothy meets three characters along the way. Each character needs help and decides to go to the Wizard with Dorothy. The evil witch also meets them along the way. Finally, Dorothy and her friends arrive at Emerald City. However, the Wizard will not help Dorothy and her friends until they bring him the Witch's hat. Dorothy and her friends get the witch's hat and bring it to the Wizard. They find out the Wizard is not a good wizard, but a nice person. Dorothy and her friends get help. At the end Dorothy is happy to be back at Denmark Elementary School.

Many students at Denmark Elementary watched The School of Oz. By watching the play, they learned about books and authors.

ELECTRICITY SAFETY

On January 21, 2009, Mark and Jim from Wisconsin Public Service Corporation came to Mrs. Arneson's 8th grade class to talk about electrical safety. During the presentation, the students were able to visually see the dangers of electricity and what it can do if used improperly.



Pictured here are Mark VandenBoomen and Jim Spychalski with their supplies for the electrical demonstrations.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

The United States Government is looking for workers for the 2010 Census. If interested, go to www.2010censusjobs.gov or call 1-866-861-2010.

Attention: Non-Residents of the School District of Denmark

This newsletter is a service provided to all residents of the School District of Denmark. The most effective and affordable process to circulate this newsletter throughout our community is to use a saturation mailing which occasionally picks up a few streets in the postal route areas of non-residents. Avoiding having a few non-residents receive this newsletter is difficult and costly. Our efforts to communicate with our resident families is important. Thank you for understanding.



VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!!!!

Thanks to the parents/guardians, relatives, and community members who have already volunteered time in assisting the staff at the ECC in many ways, and we encourage those who have not done so to please contact us about volunteering your time to help our students and staff. We are in need of help in many areas, such as classroom assistance, morning and afternoon drop-off and pick-up, bus loading and unloading supervision, as well as some clerical work for teachers and office personnel.

Our literacy block, which includes small group instruction, is in full swing. During this time, students are afforded the opportunity to work individually and in small groups with teachers, support staff, and volunteers in balanced literacy activities. If you are available during the day, please consider volunteering your time to work with a small group of children during these "center" activities. You may be able to play alphabet games, letter sound games, facilitate a writing activity, or read with the children. The more adults we can have in the classroom, the more rewarding and beneficial these experiences will be for our children. The literacy block times are from 1:20-2:30 PM in Mrs. Holly and Mrs. Gerroll's room, and from 10:00-11:15 AM in Mrs. Susek's and Mrs. Van Goethem's rooms.

Please consider helping our 5K teachers during the above times if your schedule permits. For more information about the literacy block and volunteer opportunities, please contact any of the teachers directly or the ECC office at 863-4175. You will have the opportunity to attend an informational training session if you would like more specific knowledge on how to work with children in these literacy activities. Thanks for your anticipated support and volunteer efforts in this rewarding experience.



SUMMER YOUTH BASEBALL

The deadline to register for the following summer leagues was March 1, 2009. Late registrations are still being accepted, but will be assessed a \$10.00 late fee.

LEAGUES

T-Ball - \$10.00—Boys and Girls 6-7 years old (6 years old by April 30). Games are played at the Memorial Park lower diamond on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Junior Little League - \$20.00—Boys 8-10 years old (8 years old by April 30). Games are played at the Memorial Park lower diamond on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Little League - \$35.00—Boys 10-12 years old (by April 30th). Games are played at the Memorial Park upper diamond on Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting the week of May 18th. Any Little League player who has not yet played in Denmark will have to be evaluated for team placement. Evaluations will be in the elementary gym on Tuesday April 14 from 6-8 p.m. and Saturday April 18th from 9-11 a.m. Bring your own glove, bat and tennis shoes.

13 Year Old Babe Ruth — \$40.00

14-15 Year Old Babe Ruth — \$50.00

JV & Varsity Legion — \$75.00

Babe Ruth and Legion games are played at the High Ridge Diamond.

For more information or registration forms contact Doug Kufalk at 863-5742.

HUNTING CLASS

The Maribel Sportsmen's Club will be offering a hunting safety course at their clubhouse located at the corner of I-43 and Hwy 147 near Maribel. The course will take place on April 2 and 9 from 6-9:00 p.m. and all day on April 11.

The Francis Creek Sportsmen's Club will also conduct a hunting safety class at their clubhouse on the corner of Parkview Rd. and Polifka Rd. The course will be April 16 and 23 from 6-9:00 p.m. with a full day class on Saturday, April 25.

To pre-register call Bob Schuh at 920-682-3106.

2009 SUMMER SCHOOL

JUNE 15-19 JUNE 22-26 JUNE 29-JULY 3

A Summer School Handbook with Course Descriptions will be sent home to students the week of March 16, 2009. Contact Kristi Buhr at 863-4217 or visit website www.denmark.k12.wi.us if you do not receive a copy.



LITERACY ALIVE DAY A HUGE SUCCESS!!!!

Thanks so very much to all of the moms, dads, aunts, uncles, grandmas, grandpas, friends and other relatives who attended our **"If You Give A Child A Book"** literacy celebration at the Early Childhood Center on January 23! It was absolutely wonderful to see so many people pack the gym to enjoy the children's performances and engage in a fun-filled day of literacy learning! We have received so much positive feedback from those who attended, and we are truly grateful for your participation and encouragement. We hope this event will be the first of many to come in subsequent years. The students and staff really worked hard in preparing all of the posters, crafts, snacks and, of course, the readings and songs for everyone's enjoyment, and the fruits of their labors couldn't have been more well-received.

So, again, our thanks to all who attended. We hope you walked away with important knowledge about some of the activities you can do with your child when reading together at home while making the act of reading a fun, rewarding experience for our children. Reading is the foundation for later success in learning and so vitally important. Your role as parent/guardian or caregiver can make a huge difference in a child's literacy learning, especially at these young, impressionable ages, and we appreciate all of the support you provide to your children at home. Kudos to all of you for taking the time to make a difference! We conducted the prize drawing for those who dropped their trail guides in the boxes, and congratulations to the winners of the Village Mart gift cards: Matt and Mandi Mincheski, Xa Lee, Gen Tisler, Wayne Wendt, and Judy Melotte. Also, a special thank you to Target department stores and M & I Bank for sponsoring this event in part through book purchases for all of the children.



KNOWLEDGE MASTER OPEN

The Knowledge Master Open (KMO) is no mere trivia contest. One hundred challenging questions require higher-level thinking skills and cover fourteen curriculum areas, with students earning points for speed and accuracy.

Denmark's fifth grade team took First Place in the State of Wisconsin, scoring 709 of 1,000 possible points and seventh overall in a field of 233 elementary schools nationwide. Way to go, Team!



Students on the KMO team are: Trevor Wavrunek, Jorden Pelishek, Travis Wavrunek, Matt VandenHeuvel, Jacob Sterletske, Tehya Miller, Emma Knickelbine, Maddy Selner, and Olivia DeCastro.

BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION

The week of February 23 was Bus Driver Appreciation Week. The District would like to thank all drivers for their dedication to bringing our students safely to school each and every day.





BUILDING A COMMUNITY IN THE MIDDLE

“How can we help to develop a sense of community in the Denmark Middle School?” This is the driving question behind one of the Denmark Empowerment Charter School’s (DECS) service projects. For the second time, high school students that participate in courses at DECS have written and received an AODA Student Mini Grant from the Department of Public Instruction. These grants are intended to fund projects designed to improve school climate and reduce risk behaviors in students.

After reflecting on their experiences in school, DECS students concluded that sixth grade is a pivotal year for many students. They recalled the difficult transition from elementary school to middle school: moving between classes, working with more teachers, looking for new friends, and trying to fit in. Sixth grade was a tough year for many of the current DECS students. Last year, they began a project called, “Building a Community in the Middle” to help sixth graders make the transition to middle school.

The project began with a school climate survey completed by sixth graders. Some of the results supported the DECS students’ beliefs:

25% of sixth graders surveyed disagreed with this statement: Students at this school are understanding when others have personal problems.

26% of sixth graders surveyed disagreed with this statement: Students at this school respect other students who are different than they are.

Given these results, DECS students set out to create and lead activities to help teach Denmark Middle School’s monthly character themes to sixth graders. The activities promote teamwork and creative problem solving, while follow-up discussions make evident the connection between an activity and a monthly character theme. Small groups of sixth graders participate in the character building activities with DECS students once a month, during an Advisor/Advisee period. The remaining monthly character themes are Perseverance (March), Hope (April), and Accomplishment (May).

In June, sixth graders will again complete the school climate survey. DECS students hope to see improved results, as they did with last year’s sixth grade class. Here is just one comment from last year’s sixth graders that has fueled this year’s project:

“The games were fun and exciting. I enjoyed them. They let me get to know my classmates a lot better and helped me choose my true friends. You (DECS students) were caring and listened to us like we mattered. You really helped me get through my sixth grade year.”

The sixth graders are not the only students to benefit from this service project. DECS students have developed empathy, confidence, and character. If you would like to learn more about the Denmark Empowerment Charter School’s service projects, call 863-4153.



*Please Support
the Rocket
Team*



**CARRY-OUT
BOOYAH SALE
MARCH 14, 2009
11A.M. UNTIL SOLD OUT**

OPERATION: EPIC BEEP
Please Support the Denmark Rocket Team

*Booyah: It is
Rocket Science!!*

*Outside Main Street
Market in Denmark*

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IN THIS EDITION OF THE DENMARK VIKING DISTRICT NEWSLETTER.....

- SNOW DAY INFORMATION
- ELECTRICITY SAFETY AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL
- HUNTING CLASSES AND SUMMER BASEBALL
- SCHOOL CENSUS

DENMARK HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ ENSEMBLE I PLACED FIRST IN THEIR DIVISION
AT THE LACROSSE JAZZ FESTIVAL ON JANUARY 24, 2009.

