



# DSIS Homeschool Events

October/November

## **October 9<sup>th</sup> Davis Song with Heidi 10:00-11:00 in Room 4**

Through the City of Davis Arts Commission, Heidi Bekebede will visit our school and teach the Davis Song to us. If you want to know more about her and her song, you can visit her web site: [www.cuteware.net](http://www.cuteware.net) Once there, you can click on "links" to go to the City of Davis web page that features the Davis Song lyrics and a downloadable MP3 file of the song.

## **October 16<sup>th</sup> Picture Make-up Day - 10:00-2:30 in the Orange Room**

## **October 16<sup>th</sup> Directory Information Due Date**

If you would like to have your family in the DSIS directory please be sure to fill out and turn in the form stating what information you would like in the directory. Your DSIS directory will be put in your DSIS mailbox when we have compiled the information.

## **October 16<sup>th</sup> Positive School Climate/Site Council Meeting 5:00-6:30**

All are welcome to join this meeting and share ideas and thoughts about how our school can be the best we can be.

## **October 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> Guess the Weight of the Giant Pumpkin Contest**

We will be having a guess the weight of the Giant Pumpkin Contest. Our Giant Pumpkin will be in the office near the Principal's office.



## **October 22<sup>nd</sup> Impossible Acres Fieldtrip 1-2:00 (12:30-2:30 carpooling from/to DSIS)**

We will be visiting Impossible Acres and going on a hay ride, picking a pumpkin, visiting animals and going in a corn maze. The cost is \$5 per child and the trip is a lot of fun. Please sign up in Room 4 and fill out permission slip(s.) If your family would like to eat lunch at Impossible Acres before or after the fieldtrip, picnic tables are available. Those who will be carpooling from DSIS need to be at DSIS at least 30 min. early and we will be meeting at 12:30.

## **October 23<sup>rd</sup> Scholastic Book Orders DUE**

The first book order is due on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The new catalogs are in your boxes, so you may make your selections! Please turn in your completed book orders to Cathy by October 23<sup>rd</sup>. See her directly or look for the envelope in her office to drop them off. If you are ordering from various catalogs you may write one check made out to Scholastic for the grand total. See Cathy for any questions.

## **October 23<sup>rd</sup> Last Day to register for DSIS Mock-Presidential election**

DSIS Students please see your DSIS teacher to register for our DSIS mock presidential election.

## **November 4<sup>th</sup> DSIS Mock Presidential Election**

As a registered DSIS voter you are eligible to vote. You will find our polling place in the DSIS library. See posters for hours of operation.

**November 11<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Day Holiday (Tuesday) - DSIS closed**

**November 12<sup>th</sup> Apple Pie Day**

Please sign-up in Room 4 to come at 10:00 or 11:00 to make an apple pie here at DSIS. Students please bring:

- 8 apples plus or minus depending on the size (one pie worth; hard varieties such as Granny Smith or Fuji work best - Red Delicious are very difficult for the kids to work with)
- Extra apples (if you have them) for people who forget to bring apples
- A rolling pin if you have one
- A bowl (non-breakable are best)
- A pie tin
- Foil/plastic wrap to cover pie when taking home
- A famous apple peeler-coring machine if you have one



We will have all of the other ingredients at DSIS. Students will bring home a pie that is ready to bake or freeze and bake at a later time.

**November 13<sup>th</sup> Deadline for Book of Thanks Submissions**

Please be sure to drop off your ready-to-publish final draft writing for our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Book of Thanks. Book of Thanks publication process will go to press in leadership class on November 14<sup>th</sup> and any submissions you would like to be in our annual Book of Thanks will need to be turned into your teacher by the day before on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Your DSIS teacher will give you more information about this project.

**November 20<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Feast 11:00-12:30 in Room 4**

We will be gathering as a group to have a potluck feast. Please sign-up and indicate what dish or type of dish you and your family will bring to share. If you would like to help decorate and set-up for this event, please come to room at 10:30 in Room 4.

**November 20<sup>th</sup> Positive School Climate/Site Council Meeting 5:00-6:30**

**Nov 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Break - DSIS closed**



**Workshops**

**K-1 Workshops**

**K-1 Science** -We have started our year with a study of TREES. We have talked about the importance of trees, observed trees outside, identified tree parts, compared broadleaf and coniferous trees, learned to identify trees from the shape of their profile, and even adopted our very own fig tree. We will continue our TREE study through the end of November and then launch our study of AIR and WEATHER.

**K-1 Language Arts** - This workshop is a condensed version of the morning in a K-1 classroom. It is an opportunity for students to build speaking, listening, and beginning writing skills and to learn to work together in a classroom environment. We spend time on counting and calendar activities, as well as graphing the weather. We "read" poems together and enjoy the rhythm and rhyme of language.

### **K-3 Cluster Workshops**

We started our year in such a whirlwind that we did not fully explain the new "cluster" workshop series. Instead of offering art all year, Christine and Cathy have teamed up to teach a variety of subjects to the K-3 students, throughout the year. The cluster workshop meets on Thursdays from 11-12, and that time will remain the same for the whole year. Each workshop in the cluster is about six weeks in length and the subjects and rotations are as follows:

### **K-1 Cluster Workshops**

Sept. 18 - Oct. 23	Cathy	Art Around the World
Oct. 30 - Dec. 11	Christine	Book Cooks
Dec. 18 - Jan. 29	Cathy	Music and Spanish
Feb. 5 - Mar. 5	Christine	Math
Mar. 12 - Apr. 23	Cathy	Social Studies (Community)
Apr. 30 - May 28	Christine	PE (Gross Motor/Cooperative Games)

### **2-3 Cluster Workshops**

Sept. 18 - Oct. 23	Christine	Social Studies (Presidential Election)
Oct. 30 - Dec. 11	Cathy	Art Around the World
Dec. 18 - Jan. 29	Christine	Math
Feb. 5 - Mar. 5	Cathy	Spanish
Mar. 12 - Apr. 23	Christine	PE (Gross Motor/Cooperative Games)
Apr. 30 - May 28	Cathy	Recorder

Please feel free to speak with Amy, Christine or Cathy if you have any questions.

### **2-3 Workshops**

**Computers 2-3** - In this workshop, students will gain skills and confidence using the computer. Students in this class have been and will continue to be working on learning to use the home row on the keyboard to touch type.

**Science 2-3** - We are currently working on a study of Balance and Motion. We have been and will explore concepts of balance, counterweight, and stability. Observe systems that are unstable and modify them to reach equilibrium. Discover different ways to produce rotational motion. Construct and observe toys that spin.

Explore and describe some of the variables that influence the spinning of objects. Observe and compare rolling systems with different-size wheels. Explore and describe the motion of rolling spheres. Through these activities we will learn vocabulary and concepts associated with balance and motion. This study will take us through the beginning of December.

**Writing 2-3** - The primary goal of this workshop is to encourage student enjoyment of writing. Students have been given Writer's Notebooks and are encouraged to write in them at home. Time is devoted at the beginning of each workshop for students to share their writing and to receive feedback from their peers. This workshop is structured to support students who are already capable of writing independently; participants should be able to write a few sentences on their own using invented spelling as necessary to express their ideas.

#### **4-6 Workshops**

**Science 4-6** - We have started the year with acceleration experiments and learning about scientific method. It has been good using the new CPO science materials for this class. Soon we will be moving into an Earth Science unit.

**Computers 4-6** - Computer skills such as keyboarding, and introductions to using software for word processing, presentations, and creating and using spreadsheets are and will be taught and practiced in this workshop. See Mrs. T for more information.

**Art 4-6** - Our first theme in this class is collage and mosaic. We started the year doing a collage projects about ourselves. We will next learn about the collage of Matisse and we will make hamburger collages. We will move onto mosaic projects next. The culminating project of this unit will be a group mural that will hopefully be installed in our new North wing of DSIS.

**Social Studies 4-6** - A high-interest topic currently, our focus this semester is Candidates, Campaigns and Elections. So far, we have discussed our democracy, voter registration, voter turnout, who can be President, the steps to the presidency and the electoral college. The students are really engaged and have a lot of ideas to share with each other. I hope they're bringing home their thoughts and questions to share with you as well. It may be helpful if you can remind them that part of our democracy is the ability to hold and express different ideas; I'm trying to be very sensitive and non-committal with regard to my own political position because I'd like everyone to feel like his or her opinion is valued in our learning community. I'm encouraging students to watch the debates, pay attention to advertising messages and listen carefully to both sides of every discussion.

**Writing 4-6** - The objective of this workshop is to improve student writing. Given the broad range of abilities in this (very large) group, we've begun the year by focusing on using written language to communicate our ideas without (yet) worrying too much about the mechanics. Students have been using lists to organize their thoughts before turning those ideas into a well-structured paragraph. We've broken up the "serious" work with time for writing games that allow students an opportunity to write for enjoyment and play with language. Each student has a binder in his or her desk with a calendar of what we've done together and their completed assignments; feel free to take a peek anytime!

### **7-9 Workshops**

**Science 7-9** - This workshop is working through Science labs using the new CPO curriculum which is designed for hands on learning. We have been learning about scientific thinking through doing experiments with marble launchers. Next we will be doing experiments with clover seeds and brine shrimp. Each week student will participate in hands on activities in workshop and they will be expected to do some follow up research and/or activities about once a month at home. Clover seed experiments will be the first project to be sent home for observation.

**Writing 7-9** - This group is working with Eleanor Low on writing skills. Please see Eleanor for more information.