

## ***Principal's Corner***

Dear Families,

Thank you for making Thanksgiving a wonderful holiday with your kind donations! We will again be supporting families in need for holidays in December. Thank you for helping our fellow Coyotes!

This month, 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be selling winter bracelets and necklaces for a fundraiser for their end of the year celebration.

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a school assembly and on the 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> students will be receiving a gift courtesy of Toys for Tots. Make sure your student is here for the fun!

Our winter break begins for students on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> and goes through Friday, Jan. 3. School will be in session on Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup> as we are making up a smoke day on that day. We hope you have an enjoyable winter break!

~Ms. Thaxton

## ***Registration***

Registration is open for the 25-26 school year. Please register your student in Infinite Campus for the next year. Registration for Kindergarten is also open, please tell your friends and neighbors with a kindergartener to call the office.

## ***Attendance***

Attendance at school is very important to student learning. When students are absent they miss instruction and have gaps in their learning. If they are gone frequently, this makes it difficult for students to understand new material presented as they do not have the previous information already learned in class. *Please help your student stay on top of their learning by attending school daily unless they are ill, and if you have a doctor's note, please send it to the office to excuse the absence.* Students who miss 18 or more days per year are considered chronically absent by WCSD and may be falling behind academically putting them at risk for moving to the next grade. Please do your best to schedule vacations during school vacations. We appreciate you getting your child to class on time each day to keep growing and learning!

## ***Holiday Meals***

This month we will again be collecting food for holiday meals for our DDES families who may need assistance. Please look for flyers about what is needed. If you are in need of assistance this season, please contact our counselor, Nick Thomas. We are so grateful for your kindness during this holiday season!

## ***Giving Tree***

Our PTO is hosting a Giving Tree for students at DDES this holiday. The tree is located in our entryway. If you are interested, pick a name from the tree and let our office staff know you'd like to be a part of this gift-giving. We thank you for making a child's life a little brighter this year!

***5th grade holiday sales*** Our 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be selling holiday items to raise funds for their end of elementary school party. Items will be on sale at recess Dec. 16-19.

## ***iReady Testing***

This month, all our students will be taking the winter iReady diagnostic in reading and math. Scores will come home in January with report cards.

## ***No Early Release-12/18***

Due to high school testing, there will be no early release on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. School will be released at the regular time at 3:15

## ***Winter break***

Winter break will begin for students on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> and go through Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Although Monday January 6<sup>th</sup> was scheduled to be a professional development day, we will be making up for one of the smoke days when school was closed from the Davis fire. Students will not be making up the contingency days in June as of now.

## ***Toys for Tots***

Toys for Tots has again graciously donated gifts for ALL of our DDES students. On the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of December, students will receive a gift to take home. Be sure to be here on those days! Thank you to Dr. Sawyer for arranging this for our kids!

## ***Door Decorating Contest***

Students will be participating in our annual winter door decorating contest. If you'd like to volunteer to assist with hanging items, please reach out to your child's teacher to see if they need any help.

## ***Social Emotional Learning***

A skill that we are working on this month at DDES is including others. We want our school community to be a welcoming place and to have all kids know that they belong. We ask you to talk with your child about including those that feel left out or have no one to play with at school.. We want our students to find school a happy place and a sense of belonging is critical for all our kids. So encourage your child to be the one to reach out and add to their friend group.

## ***Winter Weather***

As we head into the winter months, please pay attention for possible school delays or cancellations. You will be notified with a call from EdConnect. It is also posted on the school district website, and broadcast on all news stations. Be sure to check if the weather is bad.

Also, please remember that students do go outside most days. Be sure to send your child with warm clothing.

## ***Lost and Found***

Lost and Found will be placed outside at the end of each month. Items not claimed will be donated.

*We do check for student names, so please label your child's coats, lunchboxes, etc. so they may be returned.*

## ***Upcoming Events***

Dec. 2-19: iReady testing K-5

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>: Early Release 2:30

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>: Early Release 2:30

Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>: NO EARLY RELEASE

Release time is 3:15

Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>: End of Grading Period

Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> – January 3 Winter Break

Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>: school Resumes

## ***Please Follow Us***

Our website and school calendar can be found at

[www.washoeschools.net/doublediamond](http://www.washoeschools.net/doublediamond)

On Facebook: Double Diamond Elementary School

Double Diamond PTO

On Instagram: doublediamondpto

Follow our school on Class Dojo as well!

