

Volume 6  
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Pony Express

Zachary Elementary Newsletter

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Parents:

In this season of good will and holiday merriment, it is easy to think about and appreciate the wonderful community in which we live. The support of our parents and of the Zachary community makes it possible for our school and our school district to continue to be successful. Not only is it important that we provide our students with a strong academic foundation, but it is important that we teach them to take pride in their education and their school. We want to also teach them to have generous spirits and to give back to the community that supports them. Our faculty, staff, students and their families truly are generous, giving people. This school year they have supported the Zachary Community Helpers, United Way, FAZE, Blue Star Moms, and the OLOL Pediatric Unit among others. The giving spirit of our students will serve them throughout their lives and will spread exponentially, helping countless others. While we do emphasize giving to others, there are definitely needs right here in Zachary. Use this time to donate to the Zachary Food Bank or to purchase a gift for a child who may otherwise not receive one. Thank you for allowing us to teach your children every day. I wish you a holiday season filled with peace, joy, and happiness.

Jennifer Marangos

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

### PE

Well, Thanksgiving has come and gone and Christmas is just around the corner! It seems like the year is flying by! The students have finished seven Mustang Milers so far and many of them are running 7 and 8 laps per the ten minute allotted time. This is great! We are about half way through our runs. We will do approximately 15 runs this year. When a student reaches 72 laps or (9 miles) they will be awarded a 'big foot' this year. The P.E. department feels like this is a better incentive for the students to work toward and it gives everyone a better chance of earning a 'big foot'. We are also working on our dodging and fleeing as we incorporate these skills into fun activities. Our students are working on sportsmanship and working cooperatively with a group or a partner. Please be reminded that your child needs to wear tennis shoes for P.E. class. They may bring them and change before class if they wear shoes other than tennis shoes. You have really been doing a great job with this and we thank you! Remember we have P.E. everyday! The P.E. Dept. (Coaches Shipp, Downing, Lee, and Kennedy) would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

### SPANISH

Our math competition has begun! Students are earning points for answering math questions correctly in their Spanish classes. They should study basic addition and subtraction math facts. 3rd graders will even tackle multiplication! Competition will end Dec. 16. Congratulations to the winners of the Simon Bolivar Art Contest - 1st place Alyssa G., 2nd place - Mallory K., 3rd place Megan D., and Honorable Mention - Taylor W.

### GUIDANCE

Guidance class is working on Gratitude Journals! What a perfect time of the year to focus on words like thankful, grateful and appreciation. During this holiday season, we want to journal each day about what we are thankful for and continue that attitude into the New Year. Once again, we will also be doing Christmas cards for the Zachary area nursing homes, so start thinking of your new card design!

### MUSIC

Welcome to December! That nip in the air can mean only one thing - it's time for our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Christmas musical! This year's program will take us on a musical tour of Europe. It will be held on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM and 1:00 PM in the auditorium.

**9:30 performance:** Clark, Hunt, Wigger, Nunnery, Marchiafava, Pelichet, Manuel, Deliberto, LaBorde, Bridwell

**1:00 performance:** Wilkewitz, Howard, Williams, Barber, Webb, Pigott, Scott, Noel, Rainey, Dennis, Moore

Every third grade class will perform two songs. Our choir will also be performing several selections. Most classes will be receiving copies of their songs in the coming days. Please encourage your child to practice their songs and/or speaking parts at home. We hope to see you there!



# Second Grade News

Happy holidays! It's hard to believe the holiday season is here which means almost half of our school year has passed. The children are understandably excited at this time of the year. Please help us by reminding your child each day to work hard to do their best. We still have so much to learn.

This is a great time of the year to study weather. We have warm days, cold days, rainy days, and windy days. Help your child understand the weather concepts by watching the weather forecasts with them, studying the clouds, and checking the temperature each day.

We are studying numbers in the hundreds. Your child should be feeling more confident with numbers and do simple operations in their head like add or subtract 10s and 100s from a number. You can check their understanding by giving them a book with pages numbered in the 100's and see how quickly they find page numbers you call out. For example, if they are on page 102 and you then ask them to find 250, do they turn a page at a time or do they turn large groups of pages?

The holidays are a great time to curl up with a great book! We are learning the difference between fiction and nonfiction texts in Reading right now. While your child is reading at home, ask them whether their book is fiction or nonfiction. Then, have them explain how they know. Their answers might just amaze you!

The holiday season is also a great time to practice money. Have your child write their wish list with the costs and add them up. Let them pay for gifts they buy for family members and count their change. Practice measurement and reading when you cook your favorite holiday recipes. There are so many ways to practice math, reading, and writing in our everyday lives.

## REMINDERS

Dec. 1	Papers Go Home
Dec. 2	FREE DRESS
Dec. 5	Christmas Lunch Money due for Parents (\$3.35 for each person) 3rd Grade ONLY
Dec. 6	Raising Cane's Night 3-8pm
Dec. 7	Pizza Hut Night
Dec. 12	Chili's Night
Dec. 14	3rd Grade Christmas Program 9:15am & 1:00pm
Dec. 15	3rd Grade Christmas Lunch with Parents
Dec. 20	Class Christmas Parties
Dec. 16, 19, 20	Early Dismissal Days-1:05pm
Dec. 21-Jan. 5	Christmas Break (NO SCHOOL)
Jan. 6	Students Return

# Third Grade News

The third grade teachers of Zachary Elementary would like to wish everyone a safe and blessed holiday season. There are several special activities planned for our students during the month of December. We are looking forward to the Christmas dinner with family members on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that the deadline for turning in money for this special event is Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Alexander's choir members and music students have been practicing diligently in preparation for the Christmas program on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Early dismissal for conferences will be on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>. Our class parties will be on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

In math, we have finished up adding and subtracting and are looking forward to multiplication. The students are always excited about learning to multiply! We just started our community unit in social studies and finished our wetlands and animals units in science.

Third graders continue to use the skills they have learned in reading to help them better comprehend the books they read. The students have until Christmas break to work toward reaching their AR goals for the second nine weeks. Our writing skills are improving as we practice writing paragraphs using main ideas and supporting details. Folktales, holiday stories, and chapter books have invaded our reading time. Please continue to read with your child nightly.

During this hectic time of the year, please make sure that your child is getting a good night's sleep as well as completing all homework assignments. These last few weeks before the holidays will 'wrap up' the second nine weeks of this school year! We will begin our iLeap practice packets upon our return from the Christmas holidays. These packets will help us to do our best on the iLeap Test in April. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in educating your child.

## Star Students

Hayden Harris	Macy Hays	Jaedyn Johnwell
Isaiah Lawson	Anthony Ventrella	Alexis Washington
Amayha Collier	Jienan Hemeida	Shaniya Collins
Tristan Blalock	Jada Gresham	Emily Toups
Iyana Puckett	Londyn Zachary	Allanzo Rivera
Hannah Lopez	Elana Jones	Eryn Ramagos
William Romero	Psalms Williams	Gabriel Rast
Trevion Hitchens	Lucas Sorrell	Kyel McQuinter
Andrew Grant	Lane Taylor	Brennan Drury
Carson Harris	Axavier Landry	Bailey Liner
Colin Charlet	Brandon Mayfield	Mallory Louque
Kaleigh Louque		Claire Conradi
Julianna Vallotton		Michael Grimmer
Konner Harborth		Larkin Price



"Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night," from the Faculty & Staff at ZES