



Ruth Ditto Elementary School, Arlington, Texas

Ditto Ranger Roundup

Week of September 25th

2017/2018

Ditto Families,

Thank you for participating in our book fair and Grandparents' Day this week. It was exciting to meet many families throughout Wednesday and Thursday. Next Tuesday is picture day. Order forms went home and information is available on the website as well. All students are photographed for the yearbook in the fall. Please call the office if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support,
Karie Kuster
Principal

This Week at Ditto:

9/26 Fall Picture Day

9/29 Micah Superhero Fundraiser begins

Coming in October:

10/04 Chick fil-A Spirit night

10/09 Columbus Day – No School

10/12 Field Day (1,2,3,4 *see times bellow*)

10/12 Field Day (K,5, 6 *see times bellow*)

10/20 Early Dismissal (12:20pm)

10/23-27 Red Ribbon Week

10/27 Halloween Parade

In The Classroom:

K: This week we are studying the letters ***li*** and ***Rr*** and their sounds. Our new sight word is "***am***". We are practicing reading, spelling, and writing this sight word all week long. During ***science*** we are exploring scientific tools and identifying properties of various objects. In ***math*** we are identifying one more and one less than a given number or group of objects. Please encourage your child to ***read*** with you at home for a few minutes each day.

So far your child should be able to identify the sight words:

a, am, the, can, see, we, like

You can also quiz them on the following letters and their sounds:

Tt, Ll, Bb, Hh, Ff, Kk, Nn, Mm, Ii, Rr

Thank you for being a part of your child's learning!

1st: Language Arts: read aloud grade level text with fluency and comprehension; retell important events in stories (main characters, setting, problem, solution); **Math:** sort objects and describe how they are sorted; collect, sort, and use data for graphs; **Social Studies:** identify authority figures in the home, school, and community and explain their responsibility; **Science:** sort items into groups and explain how they were sorted (shape, color, texture, relative size, and relative mass).

2nd: Field Day is coming up on Thursday, October 12 from 12:30 - 3:15pm.

T-Shirts are available at dittopta.com:

T-Shirt Colors:

Fleck - green

Horn - red

Lowe - orange

Shepard - deep pink

Parents, please **read** with your children each night, whether you read to them or they read to you. It makes a tremendous difference in growing their fluency!

Math facts are a necessity - try quizzing the children as you drive in the car - they are a captive audience!

Thank you for support each and every day.

3rd: What an amazing week we had last week! This week will be even better!!!

In **Math**, we are continuing to work on rounding and estimating numbers. We will be practicing this for a while in our classes. Please keep working on those math facts at home!!!

We will be starting our next unit in **science** on energy!! This is a fun and exciting unit for us!! We will be doing a lot of investigating with different types of energy!

We are continuing to practice our inferencing and summary writing skills in our **reading** classes. Please keep reading with your student at home!

In **social studies**, we will continue learning about urban, suburban, and rural areas and communities.

4th: 4th Grade would love to have some flashlights for upcoming science projects if you have one you could **donate!**

In addition, a note will be coming home shortly reminding you of our upcoming **field day**, Thursday, October 12. This will serve as a reminder to make sure your child has a white t-shirt prior to this event, which can be brought at any time. We will also have a drawing for parent chaperones for the trip to Austin and San Antonio in January.

Science: We are wrapping up our weather unit and starting to learn about matter, mixtures and solutions.

Social Studies: We have completed our comprehensive study of Texas symbols, regions, key cities, and will begin to learn about how Texas gained independence.

Language Arts: 4th grade spends a lot of time understanding writing elements, concise word usage, and skills that hopefully will help our students express themselves meaningfully.

Math: We have spent a great deal of time on place value and decimals and will continue with adding and subtracting using these concepts..

5th: Graded papers should be placed behind the math divider, and kept for the whole six weeks. Students should have their math journal in their binder, too, so that it is available to help with math homework. Please remember to practice **math facts** for addition, subtraction, and multiplication with your child. If he/she knows all his/her math facts, start having him/her solve mental math practice problems: What is 120 divided by 60? What is $5 + 6 + 8 + 3$? What is $135 - 50$? Combine operations, too, for more challenging problems, and explain how you use math for estimation and checking to see if answers are reasonable. Math facts are the solid foundation to 5th grade math. Please help your child study their facts by quizzing them or helping them study their facts through an app on a phone.

Please make sure your child has *supplies* in his or her binder. Everyone needs pencils, erasers, scissors, a ruler, colored pencils, and a colored pen for grading (not black or blue). Math journals should come back to school each day with completed homework and assignment sheets.

We need some volunteers to help us set up a math fact bulletin board in the 5th grade hallway. If you are interested in helping die-cut or put up the bulletin board please email Ms. Walker at mwalker4@aisd.net.

Helpful websites for math:

Math textbook-pearsonrealize.com, and that login is as follows:

Username: 1st 5 letters of last name with child's lunch number@arlington-tx

Password: the letter "a" with lunch number

An example is~

Username: snyde123456@arlington-tx

Password: a123456

Self-paced math lessons for the year are available at lms.thinkthroughmath.com. Students have completed a placement test so that lessons are geared to each child's ability level. A live math coach is available to help them with lessons and math problems there on the website. Lessons are geared toward fifth (or fourth) grade TEKS, appropriate for each child's current progress.

Thanks for helping your child have a successful year in math class!

Thank you so much to our awesome parents for donating Clorox wipes, baby wipes, and play dough!!! ***New Items needed for tickets*** - sidewalk chalk and AA batteries

6th: Parents please remember to monitor planners and behavior sheets daily even though signatures are only required on Fridays. Specifically, watch for any missing assignments. Late homework reduces the grade and we want you to be aware of those things the day they happen. Another reason to check daily is for notes from teachers. There may be information there that you want to see before the weekend.

Each six weeks, 6th grade celebrates good behavior with "Points Day". Students who have earned enough points and have qualifying behavior are invited to a special celebration recess. In addition to some much-earned time off, students redeem earned points for special coupons, supplies, and snacks. Our first "Points Day" will be October 6th and we (and the students) would appreciate your donations. A letter with suggested items was sent home last week.

This is the last week of the 1st 6 weeks. Please make sure your student has all his/her work turned in.

Message from the Nurse:

Welcome back to school! I hope that it is a great year for everyone.

Please take the time to send an extra set of clothes for your child's locker. Accidents just happen. It might be body fluids, food spills, wet slides, or a fall in the mud. I do not have clothes in the clinic. So, to prevent your child from having to sit in the clinic in wet or soiled clothes, please send something for them to change in to.

6th graders will need to have more immunizations before entering 7th grade. It is much easier if these are given before 6th grade is over. They cannot register at Junior High unless the record is current. Some of the students have already received these and turned them in to me. Thank you! If you have not, the required shots are a Tetanus booster and a meningococcal vaccine. The state has added a stipulation this year - incoming 7th graders will need to have the MCV vaccine given on or after the 11th birthday, and the record must indicate MCV4, Menactra, Menveo, or MENACWY.

Thank you for your help in both of these issues.

Field Day Schedule:

October 12th:

3rd Grade: 8:30-11:15am

4th Grade: 8:45-11:30am

1st Grade: 12:15-3:00pm

2nd Grade: 12:30-3:15pm

October 13th:

5th Grade: 8:30-11:15am

6th Grade: 8:45-11:30am

Kinder.: 12:15-2:15pm

Ditto Library News:

Our book Fair ends today, Friday, Sept 22. However, you can still shop online until Sat, Sept 23: Scholastic.com/bookfairs and your books will be delivered free of shipping charges to our school.

A big thank you to our wonderful volunteers, especially Mrs. Kelly Watson, Rainey Armstrong and Kristin Jensen, for making our book fair run so smoothly, and thanks to all who purchased items to help earn more books for Ditto! We will post our earnings when they come in.

Our students will be taking part in several reading incentives programs, the first one starting October 1st, which is called "**Book-It!**" and is sponsored by Pizza Hut. Students who read a certain amount of time each month will receive a coupon good for a personal pan pizza at Pizza Hut!

Please continue to encourage your child to read to you and/or be read to daily! Please email me at jmurrow@aisd.net if you have any questions or concerns.

PTA News:

Party Fund: Please consider donating for the *party funds*. It is conveniently online this year: <https://squareup.com/store/ditto-elementary-pta/>

Volunteer opportunities:

Are you a 2017-2018 AISD approved volunteer? Fill out your application at <http://www.aisd.net/community/volunteer/>. Please don't forget to submit a copy of your driver license.

Like us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/DittoElementaryPTA>

Check us out on <http://dittopta.com/>.
