Assistant Principal’s Message

Dear Parents,

Mr. Gardner’s last day at Diamond was Friday, October 13, 2017.

The process to select the new principal has begun. Please be assured that the transition will be seamless for your child/ren.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Go Gators!

October Calendar of Events

- 02-13 Yankee Candle Fundraiser
- 05-06 No School (Teacher Report Card Prep; Teacher PD)
- 09 No School - Columbus Day
- 12 Popcorn Day
- 16 No School - Parent/Teacher Conferences (*)
- 17 Report Cards Go Home
- 18 Coldstone Spirit Night
- 23-27 Red Ribbon Week
- 25 Fall Picture Day
- 26 Popcorn Day
- 27 Star Student Assembly - 9a
  Report Cards will be handed out at Parent/Teacher Conferences
Have you heard the Flu news? It's true! The Flu Vaccine is now required for all DoDEA students. This is not new if you have been overseas in DoDEA schools, but it is new for us at Ft. Stewart! **DoDEA is requiring the Flu Vaccine for your student by December 1st!**

**OCTOBER FLU VACCINE INFORMATION**
DoDEA is requiring the Flu Vaccine for your student by December 1st.

**Community Drive-Thru Flu Vaccination Clinic — Beneficiaries 2yrs and older**
- Winn Army Overflow Parking Lot (Bennett Complex):
  Wednesday, 25 Oct. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm & Thursday, 26 Oct. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
- Hunter Army Airfield PX Parking lot:
  Friday, 27 Oct. 9:00 am - 3:00 pm & Saturday, 28 Oct. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Flu Vaccine Clinic Schedule:**

**Available after October 30th — No appointment needed!**
- Winn ACH Immunization Clinic: Monday thru Friday 7:30 am - 4:00 pm
- Richmond Hill Medical Home: Monday thru Friday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm
- Hunter / Tuttle ACH Immunization Clinic: Monday thru Friday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

**Beneficiaries 2yrs and older at the following events:**
- Ft. Stewart Main Post Exchange: (Next to Starbucks) November 1, 11:00 am - 6:00 pm
- Ft. Stewart Commissary: November 3, 11:00 am - 6:00 pm
- Hunter AAF Post Exchange (PX): November 3, 11:00 am - 6:00 pm
- Hunter AAF Commissary: November 3, 11:00am - 7:00 pm

**Winn Pediatric Clinic after Hours Flu Shots:**
- Stay tuned: Dates and time to be determined

**Please submit documentation for the flu vaccine or your waiver to the school nurse.**
Have you ever thought, “Wow, kids these days are always on their phones!”? Have you wondered how media is impacting our kids? You’re not alone! Because our society is constantly ‘connected,’ the American Academy of Pediatrics has noted that, ‘Media have greater access and time to shape young people’s attitudes and actions than do parents or teachers, replacing them as educators, role models, and the primary sources of information about the world and how one behaves in it.’ (American Academy of Pediatrics Council on Communications and Media (2009).

Think about this for a moment. This is profound. And scary. This realization should cause parents to take an inventory of their students’ media usage and make some changes based on recommendations from the experts.

According to HealthyChildren.org and AAP:

1. Screens should be kept out of kids’ bedrooms. Keep the computer or other devices in a public part of your home so you can check on what your kids are doing online and how much time they are spending there. Monitor and be firm about not viewing content that is not age appropriate.
2. A ‘media curfew’ at mealtime and one hour before bedtime is recommended.
3. Limit entertainment screen time to 1-2 hours per day. Excessive media use has been linked to obesity, lack of sleep, school problems, and other behavior problems.
4. For children under 2, screen time is not recommended. Unstructured play and human interaction is essential to their development.
5. Look for media choices that are educational or teach good values.
6. Discuss with your kids that every place they go on the internet may be ‘remembered’ and comments made there will stay permanently. They should not say or do anything that they would not want on the record for a long time. Help them become good ‘digital citizens.’
7. It is recommended that pre-teens NOT have social media accounts. There are kid friendly sites designed specifically for young kids. Become familiar with popular social media sites. By ‘friending’ or ‘following’ your kids, you can monitor their online presence.
8. Make sure kids of all ages know it is NEVER appropriate or smart to send or receive pictures of people without clothing, or inappropriate text messages.
9. Set a good example for your students to follow.
10. Create a personalized family media use plan. Visit https://www.healthychildren.org/English/media/Pages/default.aspx to make a plan that works within your family’s values and busy lifestyles.

For more information and recommendations, please check out:

http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/138/5/e20162592.full.pdf
The Gator Trait for October is “Respect”. During this month, counselors are working with students to help them understand what Respect means through our anti-bullying lessons. Respecting others can make the biggest difference in Together We Stomp Out Bullying. This month students will participate in several classroom guidance lessons on what bullying is, how to handle it, and what to do if you see it happening. In addition, the school will participate in several national events as follows. This year’s theme is “Together against bullying: United for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.”

Monday, October 2nd – Blue Shirt Day: On the first day of October every year we are asking kids, teens and adults to participate in BLUE SHIRT DAY® WORLD DAY OF BULLYING PREVENTION by wearing a BLUE SHIRT.

Togethe r We Stomp Out Bullying Week: October 23-27, 2017
National Bullying Prevention Month is a campaign in the United States founded in 2006 by PACER’s National Bullying Prevention Center. The campaign is held during the month of October and unites communities nationwide to educate and raise awareness of bullying prevention. Initially held the first week in October, the event was expanded in 2010 to the entire month. During TOGETHER WE STOMP OUT BULLYING Week, we will have a different theme each day to show our school spirit. See below for each day’s theme:

Monday, October 23rd – Wear a hat and crazy socks: Wear a hat and crazy socks to show that are bully free from our head to toes!

Tuesday, October 24th – Wear two different shoes: Take a walk in someone else’s shoes—Use EMPATHY skills to see a situation from someone else’s point of view. Wear two different shoes to show your empathy skills!

Wednesday, October 25th – Wear ORANGE for UNITY DAY. “Together against bullying: United for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.” Make it ORANGE and make it end! If you care about safe and supportive schools and communities, make your color ORANGE on Unity Day. That’s the day everyone can come together—in schools, communities, and online - and send one large ORANGE message of support, hope, and unity to show that we are together against bullying and united for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

Thursday, October 26th – Wear appropriate Pajamas: Wear pajamas to show that we put bullying to bed!

Friday, October 27th – Wear Favorite Team Jersey/Shirt: Wear favorite team jersey/shirt to show we are Teaming Up Against Bullying! United We Stand! We ARE Team Players!
Diamond Elementary School Book Character
Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Let your creativity shine by decorating a pumpkin (authentic pumpkin or foam pumpkin, large or small) to look like your favorite book character using paint, glue, fabric, markers, and/or other craft items. Bring your characters to the media center Monday, October 23, 2017.

Parents, this is a family project and serves several purposes: (1) a time for you and your child/children to discuss a book that they have read; (2) discuss the uniqueness of this character; and (3) work together to create the character likeness using a pumpkin likeness as a base. For family home enjoyment, pumpkins will be taken back home in time for fall decorating! Pumpkins should be picked up after the judging on Thursday, October 26, 2017. Judging is scheduled for 10:00a – 11:00a. **Any pumpkins not picked up by 3:15 pm on October 27, 2017, will be disposed of by the school.**

Contest Rules
1. No carved pumpkins. Carved pumpkins will not be entered into the contest and will be sent back home.
3. This is a home project and pumpkins should be done mostly by the students, but parents or other family members may assist.
4. Do not write your name anywhere on the pumpkin.

Categories
Prizes will be awarded for each category (PK-K: 1st-2nd: 3rd-4th & 5th and Teacher/Staff.
Genres: folklore, fairy tale, historical fiction, science fiction, fable, mystery, realistic fiction character, poetry (nursery rhyme), biography, autobiography, etc.

*PRIZES will be awarded*

Have Fun! Be Creative! Be Original!
Physical Education
~ Coach Marcus ~

**October Activities:** Catching, Tossing, and Throwing

We are off to a great start! Our students have been enjoying working on loco motor skills with the parachute. This month we will be focusing on the fundamental skills of catching, tossing and throwing. Activities will include developmentally appropriate cues for rolling balls, tossing bean bags and throwing them underhand and overhand. By the students receiving instruction and guided practice in these fundamentals, students learn the basics for many individual and team sports.

Students will continue working at fitness centers and being introduced to the fitness gram which will include the pacer, curl ups, push-ups, sit and reach, and more.

Please remember to have your child wear gym shoes on their gym day. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. — Stay Fit!

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S.T.E.A.M.
~ Ms. Johnson ~

**October Activities:** Paper Mache, science experiments, and germs

S.T.E.A.M. students are off to a great start so far this year. We have learned that we have our own voice and collaboration is a little bit harder than we thought. Kindergarten and 1st grade classes have been working on different types of animals and how to make them stand up or 3-dimensional.

2nd and 3rd grade classes also have been making animals, but they have been working in small groups to create one 3-dimensional animal.

4th and 5th grade classes have been working very hard in small groups using the Engineering Design Process on how to create a “support back” to a stool. They also learned that if you do not provide a materials list, the project does not come out quite like expected.

We are now moving into the second nine weeks and we will be doing a lot of science experiments and measuring activities. KG-3rd grade classes will be kicking off the second nine weeks working with Pre-K classes on “germs” and how they spread quickly. They will then move into mixing different compounds to see what will happen. 4th and 5th grade classes will begin researching different animals as small groups and then they will have to present and make a 3-dimensional model of their animals.
During the month of October, the students in Ms. Stewart’s classes in 2nd and 3rd grade levels will continue with the Unit 1 Mi escuela y yo/Me and my School. We will focus on the numbers 0-31 for second grade, and 0-100 for third grade. After they have mastered the numbers, the students will learn to say their name, age and the country they are from in Spanish.

Kinder and 1st grade classes will continue with the Unit 1 Mi escuela y yo/Me and my School. They will learn the colors and objects in the classroom in Spanish.

All grade levels will continue to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15-October 15. Students will learn about the Hispanic Culture, customs, food, dances, crafts and traditions of Spanish speaking countries.

In Unit one, students were introduced to the basics of Spanish: greetings, numbers, colors, classroom objects, people, and places at school. 2nd & 3rd grade classes also learned the days of the week, months of the year, and feelings. All these concepts were introduced with highly engaging activities. Summative assessments will be given in the next two weeks.

For the month of October, I will be helping to improve the English reading, writing, and speaking skills. In addition, I am working in collaboration with each student’s homeroom teacher to help the ESL population with one-on-one assistance and small groups. I will continue as a liaison between parents and school to keep ESL parents informed.
### Cafeteria’s Monthly Menu

**Fort Stewart Schools - Breakfast and Lunch Menu - October 2017**

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<tr>
<td>Banana Bread or Oatmeal Raisin</td>
<td>Sausage Biscuit or Pancake on Stick</td>
<td>Apple Muffin or Fruity Chevron Bar</td>
<td>Sausage on a Bun - Baked Beans - Seasoned Broccoli - Sliced Peaches - Ketchup</td>
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**Important Reminders for Parents and Students:**

- School starts at 8:20. Students are considered tardy at 8:21 and must receive a tardy slip from the front office.
- It is a DoDEA requirement that we do a **100% ID check** when coming into the school and checking out children.
- The PTO is **ALWAYS** seeking volunteers to help with school activities! Stop by the Office to pick up a volunteer form to fill out. For further information, please contact Karolyn O’Cull at (912) 876-5797 or desptopresident@gmail.com.
- Want to stay updated with all the news, events, and information going on with the school? Well, join us on the Diamond Elementary PTO Facebook page! [https://www.facebook.com/diamondpto](https://www.facebook.com/diamondpto)