

I DON'T BELIEVE IN PESSIMISM. IF SOMETHING DOESN'T COME UP THE WAY YOU WANT, FORGE AHEAD. IF YOU THINK IT'S GOING TO RAIN, IT WILL. CLINT EASTWOOD

At right, Steve Michaud (our newest tutor) assists in the cooking class.



Dunn Middle School Newsnote

Monday, 12/7	Tuesday, 12/8	Wednesday, 12/9	Thursday, 12/10	Friday, 12/11
Boys' B'Ball @ SY @ 5:00 Tennis @ 3:30 DMS	Boys' B'Ball @ L.O. 5:30 Boulder Club 3:30-4:30	8th grade holiday party @ Dunn 3:30 Art Club 3:30-4:30 Tennis@ 3:30 DMS	Boys' B'Ball @ Solvang 5:30 NO HIKE CLUB High School Orientation for 8th grade parents	Surf Club 1-5:00



At left: Mac's class works on an activity at the basketball court.

At right: Lance chases seagulls...another great photo by Marc Kummel!



Center right: Hannah, Alexandra, and Tamsyn on RED/BLACK day. Tamsyn is wearing a jacket her mom wore at Dunn...just a few years ago!



At left: Mac's class setting up a scene.

At right: Emma creates a California chili powder in cooking class.



Marc Kummel's Weekly Stumper

MARC'S STUMPER FOR THE WEEK

ABOUT LAST WEEK'S STUMPER

I just had one of those "D'oh" moments... It seems great luck that the lowest *full moon tides* always seem to happen at about 5:00 P.M. at the beach. This is just right for my Hike Club! For example, this week we had a fabulous -1.5 ft. low tide for Hike Club at Surf Beach on Thursday afternoon that happened at 4:57 P.M. It's interesting that the lowest *new moon tides* always happen about the same time of day. When I check the tides at <http://tbone.biol.sc.edu/tide/>, it turns out that the lowest tides *always* happen late in the afternoon here on the Santa Barbara coast! Why is this?

Many plants are edible, but there are few *staple foods* that support civilizations. Many are now forgotten or *denigrated* as snacks, like tapioca pudding made from the ancient South American manioc root. What about amaranth, quinoa, maca, and teff? A U.N. report says just 15 crops provide 90% of the world's food calories, and 2/3 of that comes from rice, wheat, and corn (maize). The global economy is simplifying food habits around the world, but the *Irish Potato Famine* shows the danger of depending on a single crop. Support local farmers and food diversity!

HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION AT DUNN ON THURSDAY

All 8th grade parents are invited to meet Thursday night to hear more about Dunn High School. Regardless of your current choice of high schools, it is always a good idea to learn as much as possible about all local high schools. Please be sure to join us. Linda will transport any boys on the basketball team home after the game so that parents may attend the meeting. You should have an invitation in your email, but you can contact the DMS office for further information.

PARENT PRESENTATION ON THURSDAY

At the end of each enrichment block, we have a 45 minute presentation that is often delightful if not down-right hilarious. We will have our 2nd presentation of the year this Thursday, 2:30-3:15 on the deck. One class, **the drama group, has a hilarious mystery and some outstanding monologues that will be presented at a separate time on Wednesday, December 16 at 1:45**

COME AS YOU AREN'T DAY

The month of December is filled with Theme Thursdays. Last week we had Red/Black day. This Thursday is "Come as you Aren't Day." Whatever the student is NOT will work. Lots of creativity is encouraged. Prizes are awarded each week. Next week is our favorite...Twin Day!

DMS HELPS FAMILIES IN NEED

Students are beginning to bring in their donations. Each team has one person they are trying to help for Christmas gifts this year. As we mentioned earlier, these are all local families. Don't know what to purchase? Gift cards to Target, Albertsons, WalMart, or gas stations are greatly appreciated. We will turn all cash donations into gift cards. **PLEASE DO NOT DONATE STUFFED ANIMALS. All gifts should be new or unused.**

READ-A-THON

Thanks to many of you, we already have 3 outstanding readers for the Read-A-Thon. **Our Read-A-Thon will be Thursday, December 17.** Students will be encouraged to dress warmly (we'll be in the barn all day) but comfortably (jamies are welcome!). They will be on the floor, so they may bring a blanket or sleeping bag to stay warm. All students should have a great book that they will be reading at different intervals. If you know someone who would love to read a book to inspire further reading in our students, please call or email Linda.

VISIT TO THE ZOO

Each year on the final day of school before Winter Break we allow the students to leave at noon. With that said, we also know it is difficult to pick up students early. Each year we go on a fun field trip to the movie, ice skating, or other activity. This year we are attempting to plan a trip to the zoo. Details are forthcoming, but you can plan on your child being at school until at least 3:15 on December 18.