

HE WHO BREAKS A RESOLUTION
IS A WEAKLING;
HE WHO MAKES ONE IS A FOOL.
F. M. KNOWLES

At right,
Emma R.
carries off
her beloved
secret Santa
gift!



Dunn Middle School Newsnote

Monday, 1/11	Tuesday, 1/12	Wednesday, 1/13	Thursday, 1/14	Friday, 1/15
Girls' Tennis 3:30 Boys' B'Ball @ Vista "A" Team only 4:00 Climbing Club 3:30-4:30	8th grade Parent Mtg. 7-8 p.m. in Donna's room Boys' B'Ball @ Jonata 5:30 Boulder Club 3:30-4:30	Art Club 3:30-4:30 Girls' Tennis@ 3:30	Boys' B'Ball @ L.O. 5:30 Hike Club 2:30-5:30	BICYCLING & SURF CLUB



At left: Top: the official egg drop off the top of the dorms at Dunn.

At right: AnnaHelen, Hope, and Sarah create facial masks with the guidance of Ms. Maura (Mr. Mike's wife!) in Makeover class. We love having Ms. Maura on our campus.



At left: Below: Efrem Zimbalist Jr. captivated us all at the Read-a-Thon. What a treat it was to hear his beautiful voice reading a classic tale.

At right: Gilles Apap performed again at Dunn's Schoolhouse series and generously offered to have a free performance for students and parents after school. The songs ranged from Django Reinhardt to Romanian folk songs, each more challenging and remarkable than the song we just heard.



We had many great things happen since the last Newsnote. Be sure to check out the photo page on our Flickr web site at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/electronlinda/>



Marc Kummel's Weekly Stumper

MARC'S STUMPER FOR THE WEEK

Many holiday toys need power from batteries or plugs. Batteries are DC *direct current*, and you better get the plus and minus right! Household electricity is AC *alternating current* with no plus and minus, but the plugs are complicated.

There are *2-prong unpolarized* plugs that go in either way. There are *2-prong polarized* plugs that only fit one way. And there are *3-prong grounded* plugs that give no choice. People lived with simple unpolarized plugs for many years. Why do we need polarized and grounded plugs now? Are the adapters dangerous?

ABOUT LAST WEEK'S STUMPER

Mushrooms thrive by finding partners. *Lichens* are both algae and fungus. Oaks form mutually beneficial *mycorrhizal* ("fungus-root") relations with many fungi. Maybe mushrooms are diverse because their partners are diverse?

Some have intense colors or smells to attract *mycophagous* ("fungus-eating") animals to spread spores just like flowers use insects. These are *adaptations*. But isn't it just *coincidence* that some mushrooms are deadly poison? As a naturalist, I want to believe there's a reason for everything. Or is beauty reason enough?

MANY THANKS TO PARENTS

We have so many parents who do so much for us, and we fear we don't thank everyone. Nevertheless, a few parents have gone above and beyond lately:

- Thanks to the Warren family for making our Chinese class trip to the theater become a reality. WOW!~
- Thanks to the Galvin family for many food donations and for connecting us to Efrem Zimbalist Jr. for the Read-A-Thon.
- Thanks to Chris Catani for his amazing microbiology demonstration to all our students last Friday.
- Thanks to the Hartmann family for decking our halls in a lovely fashion before the break!
- Thanks to Dave Nelson who donated the new green house and to Eric and his Farm Class for helping to erect it!
- Thanks for Mireille Mills for her extreme dedication to our tennis team as well as a special thanks to Cathy Vengel who is helping Linda regularly with the new and intermediate players.
- Thanks to Elizabeth Kavaloski for her help with the basketball team as well as to the parents who are helping with water for the team and to all of you who come out to the games to cheer on our boys!
- Thanks to all of you who supported our winter "Naughty Days." We made \$198 which will be applied to our enrichment program expenses.
- Thanks to Kelly Gray for her willingness to help with many things on the drop of a hat.

UPCOMING DATES

Please remember:

There is no school on Monday, January 18 due to the Martin Luther King holiday.

Pancakes 'n Pajamas 'n Chess 'n East Meets West (an all day extravaganza!) is January 29. Details below.

The Talent Show (a highlight of the year!) is Friday, February 5. Have your child begin to prepare now!

PANCAKE PAPAS NEEDED!

Do you have a competitive man in your family? Does he love to make pancakes? On Friday, January 29 we will start our day with pancakes for all our students prepared by the men in their families. Dads? Uncles? Grandpas? Anything goes. This is our 2nd year, so this promises to be more competitive than the Superbowl (how can football compare with pancakes?) and the rewards are much greater. Aside from the admiration of 70 middle school students, this year we have real prizes. Blueberry pancakes, chocolate chip, apple, gourmet...anything goes!

EAST MEETS WEST ON JANUARY 29

In the afternoon on January 29 we will have our first "East Meets West" festival which will be taking the place of El Mercado. Now that we have a Chinese class option, we will have a spectrum of offerings ranging from all the Spanish-speaking countries and their food, culture, clothing, etc. to the Asian-speaking countries and their offerings. Students who are in 7th/8th grade should begin to prepare for appropriate costumes (creativity is appreciated over expensive or rented costumes). Information will be forthcoming in each class. Parents are welcomed and encouraged to participate in any activities on January 29.