

A THANKFUL HEART IS NOT ONLY THE GREATEST VIRTUE, BUT THE PARENT OF ALL THE OTHER VIRTUES. ~CICERO

At right, Dillon's reaction to his Chinese grade creates a great moment!



Dunn Middle School Newsnote

Monday, 11/16	Tuesday, 11/17	Wednesday, 11/18	Thursday, 11/19	Friday, 11/20
NO HOT LUNCH WILL BE SERVED THIS WEEK. ALL STUDENTS MUST BRING A LUNCH!	Boys' B'Ball @ Vista A team only 4:00 No Bouldering	No Art Club Tennis @ 4:00 DMS	NO HIKE CLUB NO BASKETBALL	No Surf Club
Tennis @ 4:00 DMS	"HOMEWORK HEAVEN" WITH HIGH SCHOOL TUTORS WILL MEET MON-THURSDAY!			



At left: Eric Gaylord makes great use of our "Smart Board" in science class.

At right: Marc and last week's hike club visited the stalactite cave (did you know there was one in the SYV?) along with videographer Nick Vincent.

Center right: Sam, Maddy, and Syd work in the woodshop class.



At left: Weston and Jack working on their sawhorse in woodshop.

At right: Derek and Lance being filmed in the cave during hike club. Students are welcome to attend any of our clubs at any time. We do ask students to sign up for Hike Club in advance so that parents know the plan.



Marc Kummel's Weekly Stumper

MARC'S STUMPER FOR THE WEEK	ABOUT LAST WEEK'S STUMPER
<p>Despite the serious drought this year, this is a good year for acorns. It's remarkable that these same acorns were the "staff of life" for the <i>Chumash</i> Native Americans in these parts.</p> <p>What other <i>forgotten foods</i> can you find, either local or global? I'm most interested in those unknown foods that are not only edible and delicious, but were the <i>staple foods</i> that once fed whole civilizations, even though that harvest is now ignored or forgotten. Raw acorns taste very bitter, so can you prepare something delicious using acorns for your Thanksgiving feast?</p>	<p>Most animals, plants, and even fungi produce offspring that are not identical with either parent. Cloning or dividing into identical offspring seems easier, but in our world where climate and life itself are always changing, only creatures who can adapt will survive. Sexual reproduction is good for individual differences, and <i>individual differences</i> are good for survival. But there's still a stumper here.</p> <p>Genetic diversity may be good for populations, but what is the advantage of making reproduction more difficult for the individual? It's still an open question.</p>

VOLLEYBALL AND BASEBALL UNIFORMS!

Please make sure your child has turned in his/her volleyball and baseball uniforms. Any students who do not turn in their uniforms will be charged for replacements on December 1.

HIGH SCHOOL TUTORS ARE HERE!

Each year at this time we are fortunate to have Dunn High School students who are volunteering as tutors to help our students. We have 8 students (possibly more) who will be at DMS each day, Monday-Thursday, from 3:30-5:00 to help any child. We are happy to assign a student to work with your child 1, 2, 3, or 4 days each week. Whenever possible, we will arrange 1-1 tutoring. This is a wonderful, free program that allows our students to have assistance while allowing a high school student to be an exceptional role model. Please be sure to take advantage of this opportunity. If you know you would like your child to participate, please email Linda Smith or the DMS office (or call the office) immediately. The students will begin on Tuesday of this week.

LOCAL SPORTS OPPORTUNITIES

(1) Each Friday after school until 5:00 and Saturday mornings, a [local swim club meets at the Dunn School pool](#). If you are interested in having your child join the club, please contact the DMS office. (2) A club volleyball team handed out fliers to the girls. If you are interested in the information, please email the office (dmsoffice@dunnschool.org), and they will send you the contact information. (3) ALSO, a 3-3 co-ed basketball program is now in process on Saturdays from 5:00 – 6:30 organized by the Sheriff's League at Solvang School.

DMS HELPS FAMILIES IN NEED

Even during these difficult financial times, almost all of us at DMS feel extremely blessed and grateful for all the things we have. Locally there are many other families who struggle greatly to keep food on the table, and gifts are simply not an option. For 10 years I worked as a volunteer at People Helping People responding to domestic violence calls, and I saw first-hand the extreme poverty conditions right in our own back yards.

I am very impressed by our student government this year. They are ready to take on challenges and excited about inspiring our students. All students will be challenged to help us as **we adopt two families** who need our help for the holidays. Teams will be assigned a family, the age of the child, clothing sizes for all family members, and suggestions for ways to help. If we all do a small portion, we can do something significant. There are 150 families who need assistance at this time (an increase of 50% over last year at this time!)

If you would like to help but cannot help with the recommended items, we glad accept non-perishable food items. The teams will have a competition over the next few weeks.

COACH GIFT DONATIONS STILL BEING ACCEPTED!

An envelope went home in the Friday folder last week. If you planned to submit a donation to the gifts we bought for our wonderful coaches, we greatly appreciate it. All donations may be submitted to the office ASAP. Checks may be made out to Dunn Middle School. Students will be creating a special thank you this week.