



Bobcat News

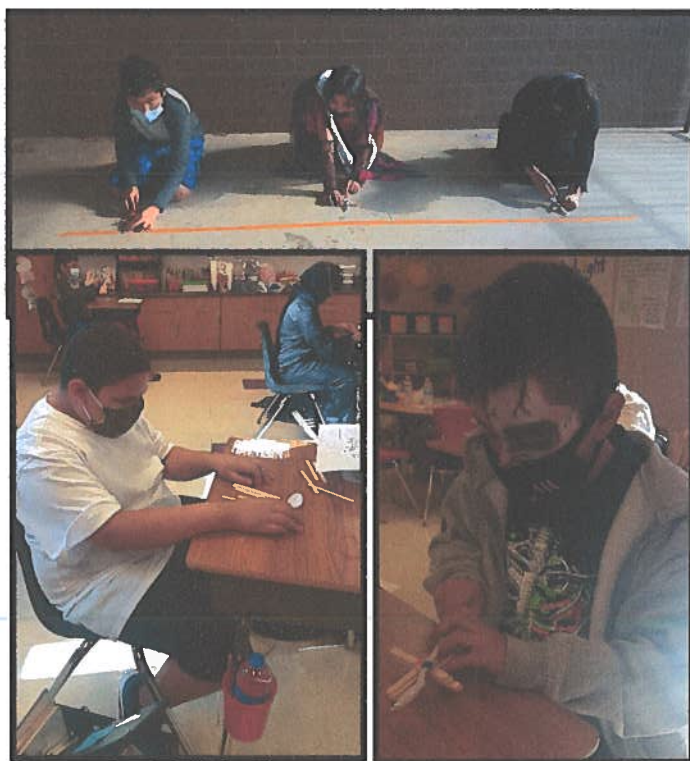
Look Out! Fifth Graders Were “Chunkin’ Punkins!”

“Making learning fun” and “engaging students” are two keys to successful classrooms. Miss Dudley incorporates both of these important strategies into her daily lessons!

The fifth graders finished up their unit on force and motion with a fun “Chunkin Punkins” activity! Miss Dudley’s students used their problem solving skills to build a catapult that was able to launch candy pumpkins. Students were all hands on deck as they tried to

create the most effective catapult possible using their knowledge of force and motion as they engineered their catapults in this STEM Activity! What a great way

to apply their knowledge in this fun Fall activity!



Inside this issue:

Weathering, Erosion & Deposition With 5th Grade	2
80 and Above Club	2
Third Grade Investigates	2
Learning and Innovation Update	3
How You Can Help at Home	4
At Home and E-Learning Tips	5-7

Special points of interest:

- *Make sure your child charges their chromebook every night so it is ready for the next day!*
- *Students working from home must check in daily with their teachers for attendance credit! Truancy rules still apply!*

Weathering, Erosion and Deposition with Fifth Grade

The 5th grade science class learned about weathering, erosion, and deposition this six weeks. To help them truly understand these terms, students made a stream lab. Many times it is impossible to experiment

with a whole system, so a lab is the next best thing! Shown are Miss Dudley's students as they are conducting the lab experiment to learn about the impacts of weathering, erosion and deposition.

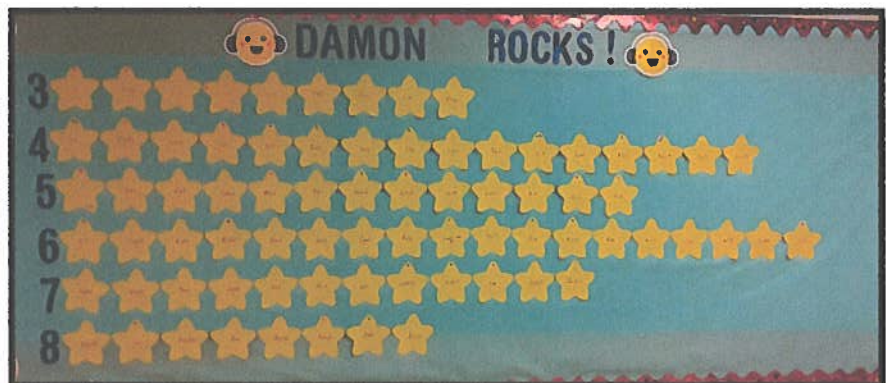


80 and Above Club

Now this is a club everyone wants to be a part of! What club you ask? The 80 and Above Club! Mrs. Ybarra, Mrs. Black and Mrs. Roberts recognize students that make an 80 or above on their unit tests. Students track their progress on sticker charts to see how many stickers they can earn

throughout the year. Students are rewarded for their hard work and accomplishments! This is just one way that teachers

use visual reinforcement to celebrate educational goals! Keep rocking Bobcats!



Third Grade Investigates

Third grade conducted an investigation on how the amount of force impacts the distance an object moves. Pictured to the right is Ryker Haeffner as he experi-

ments with force and motion to see first hand how the strength of his push (force) affects how far a car can push an object (distance). Who knew learning so much could be so exciting!



Damon ISD - Learning & Innovation Update

2020 - '21 school year has presented educators, parents, adult supporters, community and students with our most unusual and challenging circumstances in the history of education. We wanted to provide everyone with an update on our instruction and our efforts toward school improvement for Damon ISD.

A few celebrations:

- We trained all our teachers in August in virtual methodologies and google classroom so we would be prepared to provide remote instruction as warranted.
- We have ordered and received new classroom sets of ELA, Social Studies and Math textbooks and resources.
- We have ordered and received new STEMScopes curriculum for our Science classes which is the leading content to empower educators to teach the next generation of scientists.
- We are providing Leveled Literacy Intervention to support students that are 1 or more years behind in reading. These are small groups of students who get more personalized instructional support with less than 5 students for 45 minutes 4 days a week.

Opportunities:

- We need ALL our students to complete assignments whether they are apart of remote instruction or face to face.
- We need your support in encouraging our students to ask questions and engage with the teacher at all opportunities.
- We need your support in encouraging our students to read and write.

Last February we were making tremendous strides in the learning experience we were providing for our students. Our data was improving and we could see our students were engaging and taking ownership of their learning. We have had set backs since then, but we are confident in our teachers, students, parents and adult supports that we can maintain our improvement and continue to excel. With everyone's contribution and commitment to our goals we know that we will enhance student academic achievement and that will lead to high levels of success at Damon ISD.



How You Can Help at Home!

Ways to Support Your Child

IT BEGINS AT HOME....

Focus on developing an ongoing trusting connection with your children at home.

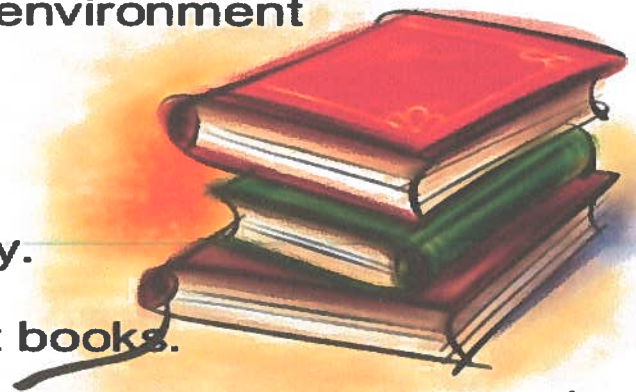
How??

- Turn off devices for some time each day and give your undivided attention.
- Let them share with you whatever comes to mind about their school day, be a support for homework or simply hang out together.
- Creating a safe, open space for children each day allows for a time that they can raise any issues - big or small - with you when needed. They can be assured you will be there to listen and care.



Ways Parents Can Support Every Child With Reading

- Serve as a role model and let your child see you reading AND writing.
- Create a positive learning environment with established routines.
- Read TO your child daily.
- Read WITH your child daily.
- Take the time to talk about books.



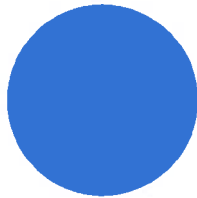
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Behind every young child that believes in himself is a parent who believed first!

Matthew Jacobson

eLearning Tips for Parents

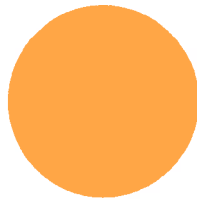


Take Breaks

- Go for a 5 minute walk
- Meditate, practice deep breathing techniques
- Take a lunch break

Have Boundaries

- Work your normal/typical hours
- Take your lunch break (away from your computer/work)
- Take your days off seriously (really TAKE THE DAY OFF!)

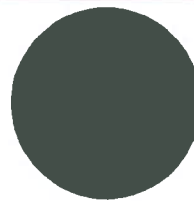


Stay Positive

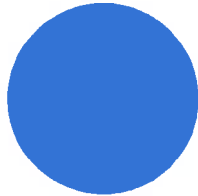
- Smile
- Create a grateful journal where you write down 3 things you are grateful for daily
- Use encouraging words

Get Active

- Go for a walk
- Get outside, even if for 5 minutes
- Incorporate a new workout routine
- Have an activity competition with people in your home (ex: who has the most steps daily/weekly)



eLearning Tips for Parents



Have a Routine

- Wake up at the same time daily
- Get dressed and "ready" for the day
- Be consistent

Set up a Workspace

- Have a place in your home designated for your child to work
- Have paper, pencils and any materials that might be needed, available

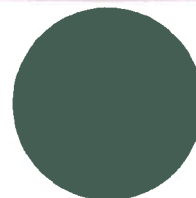


Communicate

- Communicate with your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns
- Be open and honest
- Your child's teacher doesn't know what they don't know...communicate!

Stay Connected

- Reach out to your friends and family
- Set up family Zoom calls
- Facetime and make phone calls vs texting



At Home Learning

Reading	Math	Writing / Art	Social Emotional / PE	Social Studies	Science
Read a fiction or non-fiction book and ask the following questions.	Counting: Use different objects to allow the child to count. Beans, paperclips, cereal, etc.	On a sheet of paper write the child's name. Then below, write it with dashes so they student can trace the dashes to make the actual letters.	Create a set schedule for the child for each day that includes the basics. Breakfast, reading, play time, etc.	Go for a walk in the neighborhood. Point out the signs and what they mean. Stop signs, etc.	Walk through the house and point out items that move. Review the mechanics of the movement.
Before reading - have the child look at the cover. Ask What do you think this book is going to be about?	Write the numbers 1 - 9 each on an index card. Have child match the items with the number on the card.	Have the child draw a picture of their favorite part of a story that you read together.	Create a "Quiet Space" at home that can be used for the student to rest.	On your walk, discuss the rules of crossing the street.	Use objects in the house to build (stack). (pots, books, boxes, etc) Discuss how high, what makes it fall, how many, etc.
During the reading: point out key words that might enhance the child's vocabulary.	Using your counters: beans, paperclips, etc to compare sets of equal, more or less. One set has 3 beans and one set has 2 beans.. Which has more? Less?	Have a student draw faces to demonstrate the emotions of the characters in the story.	Have a set time for student to be creative. Play soft music for the students during this time.	Start by having the child create a book focused on jobs. Each day have the child add a new job.	Cook at home. Have child help with the measuring cups and the amounts used.
Who were the characters in the story? How did the characters feel in the story?	Sort items in the house by size. Which is larger? Which is smaller?	Have students draw picture of the characters in the stories you are reading.	Caring for others: What does it mean to care for others?	Take the time to discuss the job the student selected for the book for today.	When child has their snack - cut or break the snack in 1/2, 1/4, etc and have discussion of the sizes.