



January 2019



# The DolphIN-

Volume 7, Issue 5  
January 2019

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)	2 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)	3 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)	4 Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)
7 Cheese Pizza	8 Taco Salad	9 Chicken Nuggets	10 Meatballs	11 Cheese Calzone
14 Cheese Pizza	15 Cheese Nachos	16 Chili w/ Meat	17 Grilled Cheese Sandwiches	18 Spaghetti w/ meat
21 Cheese Pizza	22 Mac & Cheese	23 Stuffed Baked Potatoes	24 Chicken or Beef Patty	25 1/2 Day: Dismissal @ 12:00
28 Cheese Pizza	29 Cheese Quesadilla	30 Taco Salad	31 Cheese Calzone	

### Mark Your Calendar

- January 8: SIP Meeting @ 4:00 p.m.
- January 9: Mr. Peace Assembly
- January 17: Spanish/English Parent Night @ 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- January 18: Arabic/English Parent Night @ 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- January 24: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter ends
- January 25: Movie Night
- January 25: 1/2 Day
- January 25 – February 1: Scholastic Book Fair
- January 30: School Spirit Dress Down Day
- January 31: Student Led Conferences

### Mission Statement

The Dearborn Academy is a unique charter school serving a multicultural community through individualized, focused instruction allowing each student to achieve academic excellence and exhibit social responsibility.

### Vision

We are an Academy dedicated to academic excellence for our young learners. We are innovative, empowering, and absolutely committed to the continuous social development and academic growth of all students. We establish a school learning environment in which our academic goals are articulated with laser sharp clarity and are regularly monitored.

We provide an academic environment where quality learning is fun and enjoyable. We create an atmosphere of trust and support for all learners where diversity is celebrated and honored. We develop actively involved learners who are building self-confidence and a sense of responsibility to be engaged in the global community.

### School Hours

7:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Buses, student arrival, and breakfast begin at 7:15 a.m. Students are sent to their classrooms at 7:55 a.m. (elementary) and 7:50 (middle school).

Children who are late to school (after 8:05) **MUST** report to the office before going to class. We urge you to make every effort to have your child at school ON TIME each day so that your child has a good beginning to their day. When students are late, it disrupts the class as well as causing the tardy student to miss specific directions for the day.

If you need to pick up your child early, we ask that you call the school office at 313-982-1300 a minimum of **ONE** hour prior to arriving.

### Principal's Message

Happy New Year and welcome back!! Students are buzzing as they have been away from classes for two whole weeks. As such, we will be working hard on restoring routines as we regenerate our focus on learning. I hope that you enjoyed your Winter Break and had lots of chances to celebrate and spend time with family, friends and loved ones. Please remember that we are very close to the start of a new semester (January 25<sup>th</sup>).

January is always about clean starts and positive change. I love the potential of the New Year and all the opportunities that exist for our children here at TDA. Teachers and students sprang into learning after our holiday break. Ratios, writing, history, winter weather, 2-digit addition, rate, reading...concepts differed and lessons involved: academic language, hands-on activities, stimulating topics; creating relationships and building a sense of belonging; making certain that all students make academic growth and; producing experiences where students engage in solving genuine and demanding problems. These are only some of the areas that have our Dolphins keeping busy in the new year and beyond!

All the best for a healthy and happy 2019!

### Reminders

- Please keep the office informed of **ANY** changes in your phone numbers or your address. Medication intake policy: *Parents must leave medication with the prescription in the office*
- School uniform is the SCHOOL shirt and BLUE or BLACK pants/skirt: **NO JEANS**
- Hoodies are to be removed before going into class
- Boots are NOT part of the uniform
- Safety is one of the most important issues for our children at The Dearborn Academy. Please report to the office when you are visiting the school.

### The Dearborn Academy Board Meeting

January 23, 2019 @ 4:30. All are invited!



Please collect and send in all box tops to your child's teacher.

### PK News

We are looking forward to seeing all the students again and hearing about their winter break activities. It seems as though we have been out of school for so long. It is very hard to believe that 2019 is already upon us. The past months were filled with lots of learning activities, fun, and achievements. We are pleased to see your children developing, succeeding, and learning. Also, we are proud to see their accomplishments. Majority of our precious students are able to write their first name, recognize most of the alphabet and identify numbers up to ten. January will bring lots of excitement, ideas, performances, and joy to motivate our children further into the right learning track.

Thank you for showing up for December parent-teacher conferences. Your support makes our mission easier and your child happier and eager to learn.

### KG News

We hope everyone had a nice and relaxing break! During the month of January, we will continue to work on identifying our upper/lowercase letters and the sounds these letters make. We will continue to sound out and write simple words like cat, sun, and dog. Learning how to do this will be an important part of starting to read! We will begin writers workshop, where students will learn different styles of writing and will be able to write their own stories. We will also begin word list test. Students will be given a list of words. Students are to study those words, in order to be able to read word when they see it. They will have two weeks to study the list, then they will be given a test on Friday. We will only be testing to see if your student knows the word when its shown to him/her.

In math, we will continue to work on counting pennies, telling time to the hour, and identifying the numbers 1-10. Before break we started learning how to write and identify numbers 11-20. Therefore, we will continue working with these numbers this month. We will also be learning about different types of measurements.

We will begin our social studies unit, "Long Ago". The students will be learning about the past, present, and future. They will be able to identify the differences and similarities amongst all three, such as the food people ate, clothes they wore, houses, way of life, etc.

It has been very exciting to see the progress students are making! We continue to ask for support at home with letter sounds, and number writing/recognition. As a reminder, homework packets go home on Monday and are due back on Friday. Be on the lookout for the word list to study. The test will be given every other Friday.

Thanks for all your continuing support .

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade News

Happy new year and welcome back! First graders are still exploring different habitats across the world in addition to learning about animal and plant characteristics for each habitat. First graders will continue to learn various strategies for adding and subtracting. They are also learning how to count money and trade pennies for dimes. Remember to check your children's folders every evening and make sure they complete their homework. Please continue encouraging your children to read for twenty minutes before bed. Furthermore, make sure your children are dressing appropriately for the weather!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade News

Happy New Year! We hope you all enjoyed your winter break! We sure did, but we missed your children and are ready to be back in the classroom with them. We will spend the first few weeks reviewing procedures for the classroom and different areas in the school. In science we are going to continue learning about plants. In Reading we will be focusing on main ideas and details, summarizing, cause and effect and monitoring/clarifying. For writing we will be looking at how to properly write a paragraph and then starting to write persuasive paragraphs. Math will be filled with learning more facts, measuring to the nearest inch, telling time, and understanding place value to the hundreds.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade News

Happy New Year!! We hope you had an amazing break! Things will be getting really exciting for third grade as we move into more challenging subject material. In math, we will (finally!) begin multiplication! We have been waiting for so long for this time to come. If you find that your child is struggling, continue to have them practice their addition facts. Ask them to show you repeated addition and have them explain how that is like multiplication. In reading, we will continue with journeys while reviewing skills we have gone over in the beginning of the year. In writing, we will start informative writing and learning to research for information. In Science, we will begin learning about space, which is our personal favorite so we are especially excited!! As always, feel free to contact us about any questions or concerns.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Welcome back to school! We hope you enjoyed your Winter Recess!

Now that we are getting back into the swing of things, students will continue to work on division in math. We will learn long division and what to do when you have a remainder in a problem. Along with division, we will be working on word problems. It is important for children to be highlighting information to help the understand what skill to use to solve the problem. Also, please keep practicing multiplication and division facts at home with your child! This will help them succeed.

In reading we are learning many Greek and Latin words and word parts to help children find the meaning of words. This skill helps children figure out words they do not know. We will also continue to work on the story elements within a story. Please make sure your child is reading at least 20 minutes at home a day. Reading is a life skill!

During science children are learning about rocks, the rock cycle, and how the Earth was formed. Feel free to ask your child about the rock cycle. In social studies we are working on basic economic concepts. Your child can distinguish between producers and consumers and will learn more terms soon.

Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us!

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade News

It is hard to believe that it is already January and a new year! We hope all of you had a fun, safe, and relaxing break. As we start to work our way through the second half of the year it is important to remember to keep pushing your students to stay on top of everything. Sometimes students start to feel comfortable during the middle of the school year and study habits, homework, and reading start to slide. Please remind them to keep up their hard work! You should be checking your student's planner every night and reminding them to read! If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact your student's teacher.



### World Language News

**Arabic 8<sup>th</sup> grade:** Students will be introduced to the food unit in Arabic, where they will learn how to order food and make a menu, using the Arabic language. In addition, they will recognize cultural practices (protocols and manners) and products (various types of foods) of the Arabic-speaking world. They will also compare and contrast different kinds of dishes from various Arab countries.

**Arabic KG:** Students will continue learning the alphabet along with their sounds, and examples of the words that start with these letters. Students will continue practicing writing their names in Arabic, as well as singing the song of the days of the week.

**Arabic Low Elementary:** Students will continue learning the alphabets along with their long vowels and short sounds, in addition to learning some vocabulary words for each of these letters. Students will focus on learning about the body parts and emotions in Arabic.



### Middle School News

**Math:** 6<sup>th</sup> Grade will be moving into the world of Fractions. They will be learning the steps to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions and how we are surrounded by them in the real world.  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade will be moving into Percents, Sales Tax, Tips and Discounts and how we will be using this knowledge in our everyday lives.  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade will be moving into the world of Linear Functions as well as continuing to prep for the PSAT in April.

**ELA:** Students in Mrs. Finkbeiner's class have been working in an interactive notebook, learning to read nonfiction text and locate main ideas in their reading. They will continue working on nonfiction reading and will be doing some informational writing with it.

**Social Studies:** Social Studies is always mixing the creativity of students to whatever subject they are studying. We have recently finished analyzing the American Revolution for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. This means that they have moved on to how the creation of the United States government had failed until the forging of the constitution that we have today. The 7<sup>th</sup> graders, on the other hand, have just read about the first empires of the Middle East ( Mesopotamia) and China. But it is now on to the other two ancient Empires of Egypt and India. Students have begun their exploration of the Old Kingdom and will be building their own pyramids, sarcophagi, and even mummifying organs! It is always interesting to dive into history that very few have gotten the chance to study like India and its Harappan and Vedic Empires. The 6<sup>th</sup> Graders are moving onto the curious subject of culture that is by far the most interesting with such a strongly diverse group. Students will see how culture spreads, examples of the strengths of their own cultures and how influential they are. Social Studies has once again won the day as engaging because we are the best subject!

**Science:** 6<sup>th</sup> graders will begin their unit on growth, development, and reproduction of organisms. We will be focusing on genes and proteins, mutations, and inheritance and genetic variation.  
7<sup>th</sup> graders will begin their unit on structure, function, and information processing. This includes taking a closer look at cells, anatomy of a cell, bodies and systems, and sensory receptors.  
8<sup>th</sup> graders will begin their unit on Earth's systems. They will study the water cycle, predicting weather, ocean currents, and the influences of weather and climate.

