



Ott Elementary—An Exemplary Campus
One School, One Team, One Goal: Student Success!

Paul W. Ott Elementary
 100 N. Grosenbacher
 210.397.5550

Trailblazer Times



January 15, 2010

Shana Hansen
Principal

Rebecca Carmona
Vice-Principal

Cathy Bordlemay
Administrative Intern

From the Principal's Desk

Greetings and I hope your new year got off to a great start. The Trailblazers hit the ground running and we are already planning for learning and fun this spring.

On January 26, Ott will offer the H1N1 vaccinations to all students enrolled at Ott. We will not be able to accommodate siblings that are not enrolled at Ott or who attend other NISD schools. The vaccinations will be for Ott students and staff only. Please look for a letter, permission slips, and other information regarding the vaccinations to come home on January 19.

There will be lots of great opportunities for parents in the next month. I hope you will take advantage of some the offerings. This past Tuesday at our PTA meeting we had a wonderful presentation on Internet Safety and Cyber bullying. Our counselor, Mrs. Zigmond did a great job sharing good tips to keep students safe while online. You can catch the counselors at the Parent Coffee when they present the 7 Healthy Habits of Children. Also, join us for Family Academic Night on January 28. This is always a great evening of fun and learning. Finally, want to get away for a Valentine date with your sweetie? PTA is sponsoring Parents' Night Out on February 12 from 6:00 to 10:00 pm. Leave your kids with us to enjoy dinner, movies and crafts while you have a date. It is my goal that parents are welcomed into the school and are partners with us in education. If you have other suggestions for ways the school could help parents be more involved, please let us know.

Our second tutoring session begins February 2 and I will also be meeting with teachers in February to discuss student progress. This is the time of year when we look at students who may not be making as much progress as we would like and inform parents of their progress. Please make every effort to conference with your child's teacher in February.

I can't wait to see you all at Family Academic Night. We also have several Ott Nights at various restaurants planned, take advantage of a night with no cooking and join us! We are welcoming a new partner, Fuddruckers on February 24.

Yearbooks! Be sure to order your yearbook before February 1. After that, the price increases by \$2:00! You can order your yearbook online. Go to the Ott Web Site and Click on the 'Order Yearbook Online' icon.

Important Dates To Remember

- January 15: End of nine weeks
- January 18: MLK Day, no school
- January 19: SAT Meeting 4:00 p.m.
Precious Minds Class 6:30
- January 20: Chick Fil A Night 5-8, BMX Bike Show
- January 22: Parent Coffee 8:30, Spirit Rally,
Report Cards go home
- January 26: H1N1 vaccinations, Precious Minds
Class 6:30
- January 28: Family Night 6:00 p.m.
- January 29: Custodian Appreciation Day
- February 1-5: Counselor Appreciation Week
- February 2: Tutoring begins, Precious Minds
Class 6:30
- February 3: 100th Day of School
- February 4: Tutoring
- February 5: Early Release Day 11:45 a.m.,
Jump Rope for Heart
- February 9: Precious Minds Class 6:30
- February 10: Group and individual pictures
- February 11: Group and individual pictures,
tutorial, Precious Minds Class 6:30
- February 12: Rodeo Day, Fifth grade field trip to
Vulcan Quarry, Green Team Mtg, PTA
Parent Night Out 6:00 – 10:00 p.m..
- February 15: Student Holiday, Teacher Staff
Development
- February 16: Go Kids Challenge, tutoring,
Precious Minds Class 6:30
- February 16-19: Fourth Grade Camp Write Along
- February 18: Tutoring
- February 19: Fifth grade boy and girl film
- February 23: SAT meeting 4:00 p.m.,
Precious Minds Class 6:30
- February 24: Fuddruckers Family Night for
Ott 5:00-9:00
- February 25: Tutoring
- February 26: Fifth Grade Civil War Days



Young Astronauts

Young Astronauts will meet on Wednesdays from 3:00-4:00. Please be sure to check the dates carefully as meetings are not every Wednesday.

January 13, January 20, January 27, February 10, February 17, February 24, (last meeting for 4th grade members), and February 26, (Stargazing Field Trip for 5th grade Young Astronaut members only. Field trip permission forms will be sent home with 5th grade YA members)

T-shirts arrived and were given out on January 12. Please have your child wear his/her shirt Young Astronaut shirt on meeting days.

Please pick your child up promptly at 4:00 p.m. in front of the school.

If you have any questions pertaining to Young Astronauts, please contact Traci Barth (x3218 or traci.barth@nisd.net) or Shannon Duepner (x3227 or shannon.duepner@nisd.net)



A Few Reminders From the Attendance Office

Absence Notes

Parents, please remember to send in a note or send your child's teacher an e-mail when your child is out sick. A note or e-mail must be provided to the teacher within five (5) days of your child's absence. The absence is recorded as unexcused until a note or e-mail is provided.

Late Students

Parents, please do not send your child to the front office by themselves if they are going to be late. **A parent must come inside and sign the child in at the front office.** The student will be issued a blue slip to take to their teacher. Students who come in before 8:00 a.m. will be counted tardy by their teacher. Students who come in after 8:00 a.m. must come into the office to receive a blue slip to go to their classroom.

Withdrawing Students

Please notify the front office (397-5550) at least 24 hours if you are going to withdraw your child from Ott. There is paperwork that must be signed to withdraw your child.

Tardies

Parents, please make sure that your child arrives to their classroom by 7:45 a.m. each morning. A student is counted tardy from 7:46 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. **A student is considered absent if they arrive at school after 9:00 a.m. (unless there is a doctor's note)**

PTA's Parent's Night Out

Mark your calendar for PTA's Parent's Night Out on Friday, February 12. Spend a romantic Valentines with your sweetheart while your kids have fun with us. Dinner will be provided. Event is for Ott students only. A Flyer will be sent home soon.



Friday, February 12—Ott Cafeteria
6:00—10:00 p.m.

\$15 per child / \$10 for additional siblings.



Ott Family Night - Go for the Gold!

In the spirit of the Olympics, please join us for an evening of fun learning during Family Night on Thursday, January 28, 2010. Registration will begin at 5:45 p.m. Sessions will be presented by Ott staff and will take place from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Several different learning activities from many content areas will be presented. There will be drawings for great raffle prizes too! The activities will be appropriate for children and adults of all ages. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, January 28th!

Check Us Out On The Web

www.nisd.net/ott

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE GYM

The next two months are really busy in the gym. We came back from our winter holiday and got started with Floor Hockey with the 3rd – 5th grade students and long jump ropes with our Kinder thru 2nd graders. In the next two weeks we will begin our jump rope unit with all the students in preparation for our Jump-A-Thon on February 5th! We will finish up the month of February with a Dance Unit which will include lots of current line dances and fun dances ending with a “Sock Hop”! Remember – you are always welcome in the gym – so come join the fun!

Bowling Tournament a Success!

Our 5th Annual Bowling Tournament finished in December before Winter Holidays.

The top boy and girl winner from each PE day were awarded tournament medals and the top lane in each grade received prizes. Congratulations to all our students for participating in a life time activity!

2010 Valero Go Kids Challenge!

Valero Go Kids Challenge is quickly approaching. This year the citywide event will kickoff on February 15, 2010. Our goal as physical educators is make kids aware that being physically active is a lifelong activity they can partake in at any age. Students will be challenged to exercise outside of school for at least 30 minutes six days a week, doing various activities. Some examples are: walking the family pet, helping mom or dad with yard work or after school practice with team or individual sports to name a few. Your child will be given one log sheet to document progress made until the final lap. You can also register your child online at www.gokidschallenge.com to monitor your child's progress. The final Valero Go Kids Challenge Victory Lap Celebration will take place at the Alamodome on Sunday, April 11, from 12-4 p.m. While at the Alamodome your child can claim his or her Go Kids medal and t-shirt! Get your shoes ready were about to keep the beat moving for the rest of the year.

From the Library

The library just enjoyed a fun filled Reading Celebration on January 13th with over 100 students who either completed 3 Tic-Tac-Toe rows or read at least 5 Bluebonnet Books. To help with the celebration we had a guest reader, Ms. Anatasia from the Red Balloon Bookstore. She had the students laughing and more importantly, listening attentively to her every word. After the guest reader, the students voted on their favorite Bluebonnet Book and enjoyed blue cupcakes. The winner of the vote was *Someone Named Eva* by Joan Wolf.

JUMP, JUMP, JUMP

On Friday, February 5th, Ott Elementary students will be taking part in the Second Annual Jump-A-Thon in the gym. This will be in conjunction with Jump Rope for Heart. Last year the students set a goal of raising \$1,300 and we more than met our goal raising over \$9,000.00! This year our goal is two dollars per student to help the American Heart Association in their fight against cardiovascular disease.

For the next two weeks all the students will be working on their jump rope skills in their physical education class and the top boy and girl jumper in each grade level will be crowned on February 5th. All students will be participating in the Jump-A-Thon whether or not they participate in raising money for the American Heart Association. 1st thru 5th grade students will be jumping individual ropes and the Kinder students will be jumping long ropes turned by our special guests, football players from the University of the Incarnate Word.

All students will be jumping during the following times:

2nd: 7:45-8:15

3rd: 8:20-8:50

Kinder: 9:00-9:30

4th: 9:35-10:05

5th: 10:10-10:40

1st: 10:45-11:15

You are more than welcome to come and cheer your favorite student on!

