

# The Innovator

## Saturday Tech Camp



***Jackson Luiz (l) and Talha Abid (r), from Mrs. Laneback's fourth and fifth grade class, share their thoughts about coming to school on Saturdays.***

**Tahla Abid- "I love technology!"**

Some of our students come to after school programs. One of these programs is called Saturday Tech Camp. Its purpose is to help students enhance their computer skills and become technology proficient. If you have trouble typing or getting around a laptop, come to this fantastic class. It might help you become a computer geek! Saturday agendas include learning how to make iMovies, podcasts, and learning how to put together a DVD. We spend time searching Safari (an Internet browser) and have created music in Garageband. Come and join us! We hope you will have a brain blasting time. It will be very fun!

**Jackson Luiz- "I hope you come!"**

Would you like to go school on Saturday mornings? Why? To learn technology! This is good for students at Scales because they will be learning how to use laptops and programs before next year when every student will have a laptop. We learn and have a blast at the same time. Recently we made a spooky soundtrack and then added it to a podcast. If you come, you will learn to make iMovies, podcasts, record soundtracks, and learn "the way of the laptop." You may have missed the first few classes, but you can still make it to the rest.

continued on page 2...

***November 1, 2007***

**A MESSAGE FROM  
PRINCIPAL**

**DAVID DIOKNO**

Welcome to the second edition of the Scales Innovator! We are excited to have the Innovator as a way to communicate with the Scales community. There are so many things to celebrate at our school and this is another way to keep you informed. In our last newsletter, we let you know about the new name that has been adopted for the 2007-2008 school year-- ***Scales Technology Academy: A School for Innovative Learning.*** If you haven't had an opportunity to see what the new school looks like, walk or drive by. I know that you will be very pleased.

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# SCALES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Mr. Diokno, continued from page 1...

The walls are up and the construction team is moving right along. The new building is just the start. We are in the planning stages of what instruction will look like. We will be very fortunate to have a new building, but even more fortunate to have many extra resources to support each child in his or her learning. We have begun to align technology to our curriculum and train teachers in innovative ways to infuse technology into the learning.

Recently, thirty staff members attended voluntary technology training on a Friday and Saturday to enhance their technology skills. This shows dedication and commitment to our school and direct support for our district goals. We know that with your help, every child will succeed at Scales School. Many parents have asked how they can help:

- Have your child at school, on time, everyday. Research has proven that attendance does make a difference
- **READ, READ, READ!** Read to your children and have them read to you. Children must see the importance of reading and develop a love of it. Reading is the foundation for all learning.
- Help your child complete assignments. In order to maximize learning, all assignments must be completed to ensure reinforcement of key concepts.
- Good nutrition is key to a healthy mind. Please make sure that your child is getting proper nourishment to help the brain grow and function.
- **Be involved.** Ask your child about school and what he or she is learning. Communicate with your child's teacher and ask about progress, and what you can do to help. Get to know the principal, assistant principal, and school staff, as they are all there as your partners in the educational process. Become involved in the PTA, School Site Council, and as many school activities as possible. When your children see you involved, they will develop a love for school and learning. **We look forward to seeing you at school!**



At a recent Saturday Tech Camp, **Julian Brown** raises his hand to share his Garageband music creation. Students learn new skills each week and then enjoy practicing and showcasing their work.

## Luiz Jackson, continued from page 1...

This is only the beginning. We have much more to learn! You must get your own ride to and from the class. Get a permission slip from Mrs. Laneback. See you there, technology achievers!

**Yorjelhi Prieto** smiles after finishing a computer project at Saturday Tech Camp. She is 1 of 25 students signed up to attend the morning class offered most Saturdays.



# SCALES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## **A FIRESIDE CHAT WITH MR. WHITNEY, Assist. Principal** **THE CUB SCOUTS ARE COMING TO SCALES!!**

Recently, there was a Cub Scout informational meeting. Boy Scout Representatives and Webelos Scouts came to entertain us and showed our young crowd what scouting is all about. There were stories about the last Camporee up at Camp Geronimo in the Payson Mountains and about the upcoming event, Scout O Rama. If your son is still interested in joining Cub Scouts, please contact Mr. Whitney at (480) 929-9909 Ext. 6924. Be prepared and do your best by joining scouting!

### **ATTENDANCE AND TARDIES**

Parents, it is crucial that your students be here and be on time daily. I would like to give a heads up to those parents who are getting close to having a home visit by our truancy officer. If your child is going to be absent, you **MUST** call in the absence. After 18 total absences, parents will be ticketed and will have to go to municipal court for truancy. That is the law!

### **SITE COUNCIL**

Would you like to be a part of the decision making process at Scales Technology Academy? Parents, you are invited to join the Site Council where issues are discussed and voted on by our committee to make changes for our current school site AND the new school site. We need parents, community members and business owners! Please contact Mrs. Fierros here at Scales for more information. The next meeting will take place Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the Scales Library.

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## **LANGUAGE ARTS CORNER- Encouraging Students to Read**

by Dawn Moan-Minott, Language Arts Coach

**It's boring. I don't have the time. It's too hard. It's not important. It's no fun.** These are just some of the reasons students give who do not like to read. Studies have shown that the more students read the more fluent they become, which leads to children reading for pleasure.

**How do we encourage students to read?** The latest article on the Reading is Fundamental website ([www.rif.org/parents/articles/ChildrenWhoDon'tRead.msp](http://www.rif.org/parents/articles/ChildrenWhoDon'tRead.msp)) lists some tactics that have proven **not** to motivate learning. The following are some actions that will only strengthen your child's resistance to learning:

- **Nagging.** Hounding and lecturing only create resentment.
- **Bribing.** Rewarding good habits is beneficial; be careful that your children aren't expecting a treat after every book.
- **Judging your child's performance.** Differentiate between reading for school, and pleasure reading.
- **Criticizing your child's choices.** Reading almost anything is better than reading nothing.
- **Setting unrealistic goals.** Notice small improvements rather than drastic changes in reading ability.
- **Making a big deal about reading.** Don't make reading a pressured activity.

**\*Remember that all learning activities should be enjoyable!** If an activity is not successful, stop and take a break. The best way to build interest in reading is to provide a positive environment.

## **Tempe Elementary School District No. 3**

**Mission Statement-** To assure that all students reach their achievement goals.

### **Goals-**

- Increase **student achievement** in every classroom, for every student, in every subject, everyday.
- Provide **exceptional service** and **support** to all.
- Provide a culture of **innovation** and **risk-taking**.
- Provide **outstanding facilities** and **technology**.

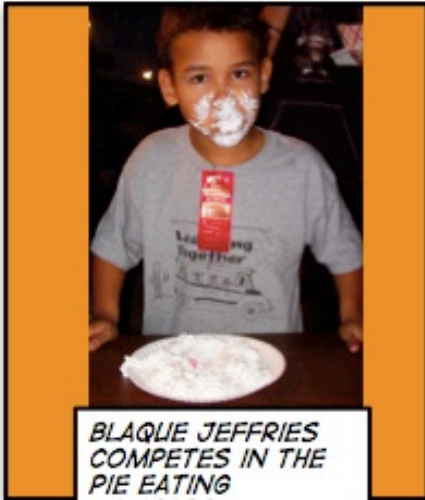


Naliyah Williams



# SCALES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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**BLAQUE JEFFRIES  
COMPETES IN THE  
PIE EATING  
CONTEST.**



**MRS. BOSEN AND MRS.  
GREGORY SERVE LIP SNOW  
CONES! MMMMM....**



**MRS. LANEBACK  
PAINTS ANTHONY  
SILVAR'S FACE.**

**SCALES SCHOOL  
CARNIVAL WAS A  
GREAT SUCCESS!  
SPECIAL THANKS  
TO EVERYONE  
WHO HELPED.  
WE APPRECIATE  
YOU!**



**TERRION AND  
TAJRYANA GEE  
DRESSED UP FOR  
THE OCCASION.**



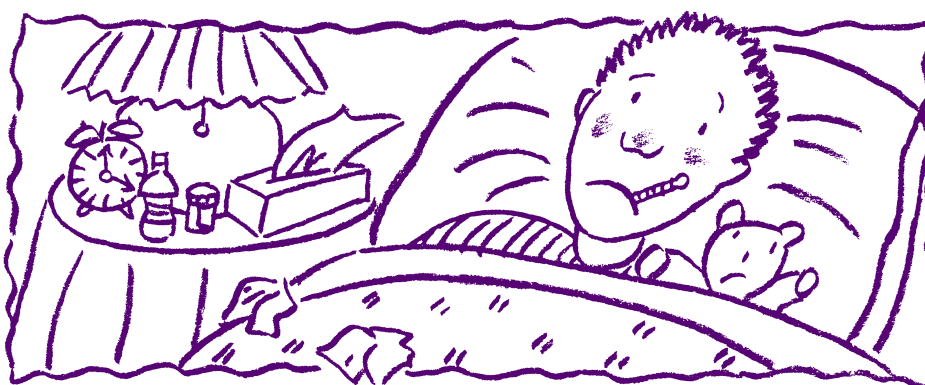
**JUMP!**

# SCALES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## A NOTE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

If your child has a cough or a fever (100 or higher) or has vomited in the last 24 hours, please KEEP HIM OR HER HOME. Do not send sick children to school. We are trying to keep illness under control. We appreciate your support in this matter. If children are sick at school, they will get other children and teachers sick. At home, give many clear, warm fluids and have your child rest. Please take your child to the doctor if the sickness does not improve after 24 hours. Thank you! Halyna Chirovsky, RN, BSN  
(480) 929- 9909 ext. 6903



## Is It a Cold or the Flu?

Symptoms	Cold	Flu
Fever	Rare	Characteristic, high (102-104°F); lasts 3-4 days
Headache	Rare	Prominent
General Aches, Pains	Slight	Usual; often severe
Fatigue, Weakness	Quite mild	Can last up to 2-3 weeks
Extreme Exhaustion	Never	Early and prominent
Stuffy Nose	Common	Sometimes
Sneezing	Usual	Sometimes
Sore Throat	Common	Sometimes
Chest Discomfort, Cough	Mild to moderate; hacking cough	Common; can become severe
Complications	Sinus congestion or earache	Bronchitis, pneumonia; can be life-threatening
Prevention	None	Annual vaccination; antiviral medicines—see your doctor
Treatment	Only temporary relief of symptoms	Antiviral medicines—see your doctor

April 2001

From the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases



# SCALES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



## **A Few Minutes Every Night: Helping Your Child Prepare for Each New Day**

by Rachel Trim, Library Media Specialist

I'm sure you've heard the phrase, "It takes a village to raise a child." Scales' staff and teachers are very concerned about your child's future and we put our hearts into his or her academic, emotional, and social growth. But to be effective, we need your help.

We frequently send home school materials on loan so that your child can practice the skills needed to achieve. Specifically, we lend library books, text books, musical instruments, and a wide variety of school materials that were purchased with school funds. These items are costly and should last for many years and serve many families.

By teaching your child to care for items on loan, you are teaching responsibility and respect. These skills will carry them through a lifetime of working and getting along with others. Establishing a nightly habit of checking your child's backpack will ease morning tension and encourage students to start healthy routines on their own. Students who have a

pleasant morning at home with family members are ready to learn as soon as they get to school. Please-

- Send your child to school with a book bag or backpack to ensure communication with the school.

- Check your child's backpack, red folder, or assignment agenda nightly.

- Sign papers that need to be returned the moment you read them, and place them back in the backpack.

- Be aware of what day your child goes to library. Is their library book in the backpack?

- Check to see if homework is completed and in the backpack.

- Read with your child or ask them what they are reading.

- Encourage practice time for music students. Is their school instrument packed and ready to go back to school?

Decide with your child where they will place their backpack, shoes and clothes to make the morning routine easier. Please contact the school if we can provide you with information that will make your job easier.

**If your family will be moving, please return all school items to the school before you move.** Your thoughtfulness helps us to educate and provide materials for all children who attend Scales, now and in the future.

*Thank you!*

## **November Calendar**

**6-** 2nd grade Dental sealant Screening

**6-** 5:30 p.m. Site Council

**8-** PTA meeting in the Gilliland Cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.

**12-** Veteran's Day- No School

**14-** District Writing Assessment, gr. 3 & 5

**15-** 3rd grade field trip

**22 & 23-** Thanksgiving Holiday- No School

## **Job Opportunity-**

The Nutritional Services Department is in need of substitute cafeteria helpers. For more information, please call 480-774-2124.

**Special thanks** to staff and students who contributed to this issue of the Innovator:

Writers- David Diokno, Matt Whitney, Dawn Moan-Minott, Halyna Chirovsky, and student writers Talha Abid and Jackson Luiz

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**We appreciate you!**

Rachel Trim, Editor  
Library Media Specialist